

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT 2010-2011 School Year

In 1989, the Organization of Professional Employees of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (OPEDA) established the John W. Peterson Scholarship in recognition of Mr. Peterson's dedicated service as the 24th President of OPEDA. Beginning in 2009, OPEDA also started the Steven "Tom" Stefani Scholarship to honor Mr. Stefani's heroic service and ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan. Tom Stefani, a Forest Service Range Conservationist was serving on a voluntary assignment in Afghanistan when he was killed in an explosion that impacted his convoy.

During the past few years, OPEDA has awarded several scholarships of \$500 each to students from all parts of the country. OPEDA places a high premium on education and believes that its scholarships will have a valuable give-back in the future. **To reward our members for their continuing support of OPEDA, starting in 2010, scholarships will be available only to OPEDA Members in good standing and their family members. Additionally, only fully completed applications will be considered. If you plan to apply for a scholarship, please ensure that you submit all documents requested in the announcement.**

The application should include the following:

1. A completed Scholarship Application Form (attached).
2. A typed, double spaced essay, not to exceed two pages, on the topic: "Public Service is a Unique Challenge with Many Rewards."
3. One character reference. This should be a letter (no more than 2 paragraphs contained on one page) from a non-related adult e.g., teacher, coach...etc, describing how the writer has come to know the applicant and what the strengths of the applicant are.
4. A copy of a transcript showing a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher.
5. A list and brief description on a separate page of awards and extracurricular and community service activities.

OPEDA Scholarship Application Form  
2010-2011 School Year

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Complete Home  
Address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number – Home\_\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring OPEDA Member's name\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Relationship to applicant\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Work Telephone Number\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Grade Point Average\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be higher than  
2.8 on a 4.0 scale).

College/University that applicant attends or plans to  
attend\_\_\_\_\_

Class status as of Fall term 2010 (must be at least a college Freshman by fall  
term 2010)

Submit to the following address by August 2, 2010:

Organization of Professional Employees of the U.S. Department of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 23762, Washington, DC 20026-3762

For further information contact OPEDA at the above address or call  
(202)720-4898.