**Emerald Coast Science Center Peter Beczkiewicz Memorial Scholarship**

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Emerald Coast Science Center Peter Beczkiewicz Memorial Scholarship. As set forth succinctly in its mission statement, “The Emerald Coast Science Center strives to inspire and grow a scientifically engaged community,” Mr. Beczkiewicz, in turn, was a graduate of the US Naval Academy and a high school chemistry teacher who inspired and greatly assisted his students.

This scholarship will be awarded to one graduating high school senior from Okaloosa County. The scholarship award is $8,000 and will be payable in four installments of $2,000 each to coincide with the start of each recipient’s four years of college. To receive all scholarship installments, the recipient must maintain satisfactory academic performance and remain a full-time student in good standing at his or her respective college or university. More details regarding these requirements shall be provided to the scholarship recipient.

 To be eligible for the scholarship, you must meet the following minimum criteria:

1) Be a senior in good standing at a high school in Okaloosa County, Florida.

2) Be a resident of Okaloosa County, Florida.

3) Establish you will be pursuing a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree at an accredited college or university and will be pursuing a degree and career in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (“STEM”) beginning in 2023.

4) Have a minimum cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.0.

5) Exposure to STEM fields through extracurriculars or community service.

Applicants who are receiving a *full* scholarship from a different source are not eligible (a full scholarship is a scholarship that covers the expense of the tuition, fees, and books for four years of study). Similarly, dependents of any staff member of the Emerald Coast Science Center are not eligible.

The Emerald Coast Science Center will consider the following key criteria when awarding the scholarship: strength and rigor of academic record; community service record; character; leadership; demonstration of commitment to pursue a degree and career in STEM; and the extent to which this scholarship will help the applicant achieve his or her goals.

The scholarship application and related materials must be completed and **received** by **April 15, 2024.** Please submit your application by e-mail to scholarship@ecscience.org, or by mail to: Scholarship Committee, Emerald Coast Science Center, 31 Memorial Pkwy SW, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548. ***If you choose to mail your application, please allow enough time for the materials to be received by the deadline.***

The Emerald Coast Science Center appreciates the efforts you have put forth toward achieving your educational goals and thanks you for your interest in the Emerald Coast Science Center Peter Beczkiewicz Memorial Scholarship.

Sincerely,

Emerald Coast Science Center

**Emerald Coast Science Center Peter Beczkiewicz Memorial
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**DEADLINE: April 15, 2024**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

High School:

Cumulative GPA, Weighted and Unweighted:

SAT and/or ACT Score:

Relevant STEM studies (i.e. AP, IB or Industry Certifications):

College or University You Plan to Attend. Please state where you intend to pursue your degree in STEM; if you do not yet know, please list the possibilities:

1) Please inform us about your full high school record, including a list of your sports, activities, clubs, leadership positions, and awards and honors. You may attach a resume in lieu of listing this information if you prefer.

2) Please provide a copy of your high school transcript (official or unofficial).

3) Are you the first in your immediate family to attend college?

4) Please inform us whether you worked during the school year and summer. If so, please let us know the nature of your work and the number of hours you typically worked.

5) Please provide detailed information about your community service during high school. Include information about beneficiaries of the service and the approximate number of hours donated.

6) Please submit an essay of no more than 500 words describing your intentions and goals of pursuing a degree and career in STEM. Let us know the steps you have taken thus far to achieve your goals and how receiving this scholarship will assist you.

7) Please submit two recommendation letters from non-family members.

8) Please share any other information you want us to know about you.

\*Note that the Emerald Coast Science Center reserves the right to verify with your high school the information you have submitted.