



**Black Gold Stampede
Rusk County Rodeo Association
Scholarship Application 2026**

Dear Graduating Senior,

The Black Gold Stampede Rodeo, Rusk County Rodeo Association, is offering scholarship opportunities for qualified graduating seniors in Rusk County. Each \$4000 scholarship will be distributed at \$500.00 for each consecutive fall and spring semester. To maintain eligibility, the recipient must maintain RCRA grade and enrollment requirements and adhere to all deadlines stated herein. Failure to meet any of the listed requirements during any semester nullifies any remaining amount of the scholarship stipend. The number of scholarships awarded will be decided by the RCRA Scholarship Committee each year.

Recipients must show official proof of the required enrollment by **September 1, 2026**, to RCRA Treasurer to receive the first \$500.00 installment. For all additional installments, recipients must show successful completion of a minimum of twelve (12) academic semester hours each semester, with a minimum grade point average of 2.5, and provide official proof of required enrollment for the following semesters for the remaining three years (fall and spring) to be eligible to receive the remaining \$500.00 installments of the stipend. Official proof of enrollment, course completion and GPA must be turned in to RCRA by the September 1st/February 1st following the semester. Failure to comply with any of the above stated terms nullifies any remaining balance of the scholarship stipend.

Please read through the application form before beginning. Completion of the application form may require some information from your parents, guardians and counselor. All other answers should be your own thoughts, in your own words. Answer all questions completely and thoroughly as possible.

Your complete application form must be returned or received no later than 5:00PM on Monday, February 9, 2026

EMAIL: blackgoldstampederodeo@gmail.com

MAIL: Rusk County Rodeo Scholarships, P.O. Box 1623, Henderson, TX 75653

DELIVER: Jennifer Sprayberry at the Rusk County Expo Center 3303 FM 13 W Henderson Tx in the Wall of Brands Office OR Ashley Martin at ETPCU 723 E Main St Henderson Tx

Please note, to be considered, the forms must be returned by the deadline with the following items included: (1) completed application, (2) official current transcript, (3) one letter of reference, (4) essay, (5) copy of ACT or SAT results if you have taken either test.

****INCOMPLETE AND/OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED****

You are to be congratulated on the completion of your high school career, and we are excited for your very successful future.

Sincerely Yours,

Scholarship Committee

Name _____ Birthday _____ Age _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

High School Attended _____

Father's Name _____ Occupation _____

Mother's Name _____ Occupation _____

Estimated Family Income _____

Number of dependent children in family: _____ Ages _____ Number in College _____

List any other sources of financial assistance you have available for college expenses (savings, trust funds, social security insurance, etc. List approximate amounts of each.

List any other loans, grants, or scholarships that you have been awarded for your college education including amounts.

Will you be employed during the summer? _____ If yes, where? _____

Employer's Name _____ Phone _____

List other employment history

_____ Employer's Name _____

_____ Employer's Name _____

_____ Employer's Name _____

College Goals

Major area of study in college: _____

What are your career goals?

Explain why you feel you will be successful in this field.

Who or what influenced you to choose this field?

What colleges have you been accepted to?

What college do you plan to attend? And why?

Participation

List activities, organizations, awards, and honors you have participated in or received?

List leadership roles and positions you have held:

List community related activities and projects you have participated in:

What extra-curricular activities do you want to pursue in college?

List hobbies or other activities you enjoy:

Describe your most enjoyable memory from your attendance at the annual Rusk County PRCA Rodeo:

Have you through the FFA or other organization worked at the Rusk County Rodeo? Describe:

Describe in **ESSAY** form, the rewards, satisfaction, or benefits derived from your participating in school and community related activities. Response should be **250 – 500 words** in length, typed or written neatly and attached to this scholarship application.

Excluding financial consideration, why do you consider a college education to be important?

Items of information the **MUST** be included in application:

1. **Completed Application** form.
2. **Official high school transcripts**.
3. **One letter of reference**. Should be obtained from any of the following: (a) high school counselor; (b) high school principal; (c) high school superintendent; (d) high school teacher; (e) employer; (f) church pastor.
4. Completed **essay** describing reward of participating in school and community related activities (as stated above).
5. Copy of **ACT or SAT** results if you have taken either test.

Incomplete application will NOT be considered

All of the information given in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge and given in my own words.

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____