**THE GEORGE AND THELMA WOODS EDUCATIONAL FUND**

**BACKGROUND:** George and Thelma Woods bequeath a portion of their estate to establish a Trust Fund through the United Community Bank for the purpose of promoting higher education for a needy student in Pike County area.

The Trust stated that net income from a principal sum of the Trust shall be used to provide the neediest high school graduate from a Pike County High School a financial incentive to attend an accredited college in the United States.

**STATED PURPOSE OF THE FUND:** To promote higher education

**OBJECTIVE:** To provide a financial incentive to the **neediest** high school senior in Pike County, IL to pursue a higher education.

**CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP:**

1. The financial scholarship shall consist of funds derived from the “The George and Thelma Woods Educational Trust Fund” and awarded annually to a graduating Pike County, IL High School senior.
2. The Scholarship will be awarded to each recipient for **(1) year only.**
3. The Scholarship award must be used in the academic year immediately following the student’s graduation from high school.
4. Payment of the Woods Educational Fund Scholarship award will be made payable to both the student and the college from the United Community Bank.

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QUALIFICATIONS OF APPLICANTS:

The applicant must –

* Be a graduate of a Pike County, Illinois High School, a senior at the time of the application
* Be of good moral and ethical character
* Have an academic record sufficient to indicate probable success in a college program
* Show a reasonable need for financial assistance to enroll in a higher education program

FORMAL APPLICATION:

**Any applications that are not complete are subject to discard.**

The Applicant must –

1. Submit a completed George and Thelma Woods Educational Trust Fund form, signed by the applicant and parent and/or guardian
2. Submit an official High School Transcript which includes the seventh semester grades, the applicant’s class rank, and college entrance test scores
3. Submit a family financial statement including a copy of Federal Income Tax Returns for year 2024.
4. Submit a letter of recommendation of applicant by an appropriate school official (Principal, Assistant Principal or teacher)

COMPLETION OF APPLICATION:

1. The applicant shall give the completed application form to the Guidance Counselor by Wednesday, April 16, 2025.
2. The Guidance Counselor shall, no later Friday, April 18, 2025, forward the material listed above to:

Julie Stratman, Assistant Regional Superintendent

Regional Office of Education #1

507 Vermont

Quincy, IL 62301