

The Kristi Karacozoff Memorial Scholarship

During her 16¹/₂ years of life, Kristi Karacozoff dedicated herself to her family, her studies, and the wellbeing of others. The Kristi Karacozoff Memorial Scholarship Fund was developed as a legacy to carry on the values she held important in life. A devoted student, Kristi strove for academic excellence at every level in school. Never was there a time when she did not put her studies first. Even during a lengthy battle with liver disease, Kristi completed her school courses through a home hospital program. Managing to stay at grade level and achieving a 4.17 GPA with deteriorating health, she always kept her eye on the prize of a college education. Kristi's fondest desire was to become a pediatrician in order to help those she cared so much about: babies and children. Because of this incredible depth of character and dignity in strength, her legacy of learning and caring will continue. This scholarship fund will honor students, like Kristi, who fight battles with illness and other medical challenges while trying to reach their goals of higher education.

Purpose and Amount

Each scholarship will be for one year only but may be renewable for future years. Awards typically range from \$250 to \$1,500. The purpose of this grant is to help pay expenses such as tuition and fees, books, and educational supplies.

Eligibility

To be eligible, an applicant must:

- Be a graduating senior at a high school in Northern California **or** be a college student who graduated from a high school in Northern California
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Demonstrate a chronic or life-threatening illness, with a doctor's certification of your medical condition

Selection

The selection committee will review each application from eligible candidates. Finalists will be selected based upon how well they meet the scholarship criteria.

Award

The scholarship will be issued over the course of one academic year. Continuous, full-time enrollment (no fewer than 12 units per quarter/semester) is a

requirement. The Sacramento Region Community Foundation will disburse the award directly to the university on behalf of the recipient.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate applications: letters of reference, past academic performance, financial need, character & citizenship, extracurricular activities, and unusual circumstances.

How to Apply

Submit a complete application package by the specified due date. Use the following **application package checklist** to make sure your application package is complete:

- \Box A completed application form
- ☐ A typed, double-spaced, self description essay of 500 words or less describing your will to succeed and how you are overcoming obstacles to achieve your goals, which includes a brief but detailed description of your medical condition and how it impacts your daily life.
- □ Official transcripts, in a sealed envelope
- \Box A copy of your FAFSA
- □ A list of your extracurricular and community activities including any work experience
- □ Two letters of recommendation from individuals who are not related to the applicant
- □ A doctor's certification of your medical condition

Please visit <u>www.sacregcf.org</u> to obtain additional information and application materials. For questions, please contact our office at (916) 921-7723 or scholarships@sacregcf.org.

Deadline

The deadline to apply is **April 8, 2011.** Please mail the completed application packet to:

Sacramento Region Community Foundation 740 University Avenue, Suite 110 Sacramento, CA 95825 Attn: Kristi Karacozoff Memorial Scholarship

Incomplete applications and those received after the deadline will not be considered. NO EXCEPTIONS