2016 Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC)

Buster Bynum Education Scholarship

**INTRODUCTION**

The Southern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC), comprised of fourteen member states including **North Carolina** has announced the **2016 Buster Bynum Education Scholarship.** Named in honor of R. A. “Buster” Bynum, retired Director of Virginia Department of Education’s pupil transportation office and former SESPTC treasurer, this one-time $2,500 education scholarship is made available to one deserving public school student in each of the fourteen-member southeastern states.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

1. The parent/guardian listed above had a Gross Taxable Family Income equal to or less than $75,000 for each of the “Past Three Tax Years.” (For the purpose of this scholarship award, the “Past Three Tax Years” is defined as the 2013, 2014, and 2015 tax years.)

2. The parent/guardian listed on application has been an active employee in public school transportation during the “Past Three Years.” This includes school bus drivers, aides, monitors, mechanics, parts clerks, foremen, managers, trainers, supervisors, directors, and inspectors that work in public education. (For the purpose of this scholarship award, the “Past Three Years” work history requirement is defined as the period since January 1, 2013.)

3. The student applicant above has at least a 3.0 (B) scholastic average, will graduate from a public high school, and will attend a post-secondary educational institution in 2016.

4. The scholarship cannot be awarded to any student who has a family member serving on the selection committee.

**SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION AND TIMELINE**

**May 9, 2016 –** Applications are due to the local school system transportation office in your county.

**May 16, 2016** – Entry mailed to state (postmarked by May 16, 2016). A local selection committee established in each school system shall select from all local applicants a finalist whose application must be submitted to the State SESPTC Scholarship Selection Committee. Only **one** application from each school system will be judged at the state level. Applications shall not be submitted to the state by student applicants.

**May 30, 2016** – The State SESPTC Scholarship Selection Committee will select the state’s winner.

**June 20-June 23, 2016** – Official presentation of the scholarship will take place **at the annual NC Pupil Transportation Association Summer Conference that will be held in Asheville in June, 2016**. Applicants do not have to be present to receive the scholarship award. The scholarship award payment will be made to the postsecondary institution that the student will attend. Payment will be by check payable to the student AND the institution. The scholarship cannot be awarded to any student who has a family member serving on the selection committee.

**Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC)**

**Buster Bynum Scholarship Application**

**APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED**

**SECTION I APPLICANT PERSONAL INFORMATION**

The parent/guardian on behalf of his or her child must submit the application.

Parent/Guardian Name:       Job Title:

*(Must have been a school transportation employee since January 1, 2013.)*

Parent/Guardian’s Address: Street:

City:

Zip:

Parent/Guardian’s Phone Number: (    )    -

Name of the Organization Employing the Parent/Guardian:

Employer Organization’s Contact Person:

Employer Contact Person’s Phone Number: (   )     -

Name of Student:

Name of School from which the student will graduate in 2016:

Address of School: Street:

City:

Zip:

I certify, as parent/guardian of       that the combined family income of both parents/guardians did not

exceed $75,000 for each of the past 3 years beginning with 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

The application will be scored using the following:

* **Scholarship -** The student shall have a cumulative grade point average (grades 9-11) of 3.0 (B)

**(25 points)** minimum, as verified by official high school academic records.

* **Leadership -**  The student shall have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and abilities in

**(15 points)** co-curricular activities and community service activities.

* **Citizenship/ -** The student shall have demonstrated exemplary citizenship qualities that include not only

**(Service** maturity, loyalty, responsibility, integrity, and trustworthiness; but also a concern for the

**(25 points)** well-being of all citizens and shall have rendered unselfish service and assistance to

others, to the school, and to the community.

* **Essay -** The student shall have explained in a typewritten essay of not more than 500 words why

**(35 points)** he/she applied for the scholarship and how the scholarship will be used.

**SECTION II *SCHOLARSHIP:* EDUCATIONAL DATA** (PLEASE ENCLOSE TRANSCRIPT)

1. **School now attending:**

**Class Rank:**      

**In class of:**

**Number**

**CEEB/SAT/ACT Test:**      

**GPA:**

**Score**

1. **College(s) / Vocational Technical school (s) to which you seek admission.**
2. Accepted? Yes       No
3. Accepted? Yes       No
4. Accepted? Yes       No
5. **List any part-time or full-time work experience.**

**SECTION III *LEADERSHIP/INVOLVEMENT/LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE***

1. **List all co-curricular activities in which you have participated, including honors and awards.**

1. **List athletics in which you have participated in.**

1. **List community service activities or projects in which you have participated.**

1. **List any special interest or hobbies.**

1. **Why do you desire to continue your education?**

**SECTION IV**

Using the space provided below, please describe why you have applied for the scholarship and how you would use the scholarship. **Essay must be typed in 500 words or less.** Applicants should proofread their essays for grammar, spelling and syntax.

**ESSAY**

**SECTION V REFERENCES / CERTIFICATIONS**

1. Please provide a letter from the parent/guardian’s employer verifying employment in public school transportation since January 1, 2013, and documenting financial need (Gross Taxable Family Income equal to or less than $75,000 for each of the past three tax years).
2. Please provide a letter from the student’s high school guidance counselor or other authorized high school official verifying the student’s grade point average, anticipated graduation from high school, and planned attendance at a postsecondary educational institution in the fall of 2016.
3. Please provide a letter of support from one school staff member and one and one adult family acquaintance of the student, stating why the award should be made to this student.

**SECTION VI SUBMISSION – CHECKLIST**

**Please check to make sure you have submitted all documentation below:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed Application Form, Signed

\_\_\_\_\_ 500 word (Maximum) Essay Included in This Application

\_\_\_\_\_ Official High School Transcript

Letters for each:

\_\_\_\_\_ Verified Parent/Guardian transportation employment since January 1, 2013

\_\_\_\_\_ High School Counselor/authorized high school official statement of student’s grade point average,

Anticipated graduation, planned attendance at a postsecondary education institution in the fall of 2016

\_\_\_\_\_ Support letter from two adults – teachers and adult family acquaintances of the student

**PLEASE CHECK THE APPLICATION FOR COMPLETENESS BEFORE SIGNING BELOW, APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN MAY 8, 2015.**

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Date of Application Signature of Applicant

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Signature of School Official Signature of Parent/Guardian

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Title of School Official