KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

General Scholarship Application Rubric

Academic Motivation & Goals

Clarity of educational and career goals, commitment to credential completion and ability to articulate how education will help them achieve their goals.

1	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10
No goals expressed	Very limited clarity; minimal link to degree or credential completion	Goals somewhat vague or incomplete; weak connection to degree or credential completion	Some goals are identified; a moderately clear connection to degree or credential completion	Clear and specific goals; a solid connection to degree or credential completion	Exceptionally clear, specific and compelling goals; strong, direct link to degree or credential completion and future plans

Perseverance & Personal Growth

Evidence of resilience, overcoming challenges, persistence in education and/or demonstration of personal growth.

1	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10
No examples provided	Very limited or unclear evidence of perseverance and growth	Minimal evidence of perseverance and growth; vague description	Some challenges or growth described but with limited detail or depth	Clear examples of perseverance and growth with good detail	Strong, specific and compelling examples of perseverance and growth

Engagement

Evidence of involvement in activities beyond oneself — such as community service, volunteerism, employment, caregiving, sports, arts or leadership — that demonstrate initiative, responsibility or contribution to others.

1	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10
No evidence of engagement	Very limited engagement or unclear contribution beyond self	Minimal involvement or impact; limited engagement beyond self	Some engagement or contribution beyond self, with moderate impact	Consistent and meaningful engagement; good commitment to benefitting others	Clear, significant engagement; strong and sustained commitment to benefitting others

Based on your review of this application, how strongly do you recommend this student for this scholarship?

Please consider the following when scoring:

1	2	3	4	5
Do not recommend	Reluctant recommendation; limited evidence of readiness or impact	Neutral; applicant shows some promise, but impression is mixed	Recommend; solid applicant with clear strengths	Enthusiastically recommend; outstanding applicant who should receive strong consideration