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### THE MCPHERSON GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP 2017 - 2018

Each year McPherson Graduate Scholarships are awarded to individuals who have completed their bachelor degrees at Adams State University. The awards are made to new applicants to Colorado State University's Graduate School and cover the first year of graduate study with opportunity for renewal by applying for renewal in the second year. Students planning to study in any discipline or department are eligible. The awards are contingent upon unconditional admission to Graduate School in a program leading to a degree. Students must have a minimum 3.00 GPA from their undergraduate degree to be considered eligible for this award.

Each Scholarship carries an award of \$10,000 (renewable). Recipients must register full time (nine or more resident instruction credit hours) for two semesters, normally fall and spring, in that order. One half of the award is paid in the first semester and one half in the second semester. The second semester award is contingent upon maintaining a 3.0 grade point average and otherwise remaining in good academic standing. Other awards such as assistantships and fellowships may be held simultaneously with the McPherson Scholarship.

Two awards will be available for the academic year of 2017-2018 (Fall 2017, Spring 2018). The preferred deadline for applications is April 15, 2017, but applications will be accepted until both awards are made. Awards will be made May 1 or until both scholarships are awarded.

The scholarships are competitively awarded according to the following criteria:

1. Academic excellence. Awardees must have achieved an excellent record in undergraduate course work. Assigned grades are important, but so is work on special projects, authorship of papers, and completion of especially challenging assignments.
2. Potential for independent intellectual contribution. Awardees must demonstrate a level of creativity necessary for real achievement in the research, artistry, or scholarly work characteristic of their disciplines.
3. Commitment to a purpose for which a graduate degree is appropriate. Awardees must have a coherent set of intentions; these however must display a thoughtful approach to the future rather than inflexible adherence to past choices.

Applications may be accessed at <http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/financial/financial-aid-opportunities/> and consist of the following:

1. A completed application form with a narrative summarizing the applicant's qualifications for this award (maximum of 2 pages). The narrative should explicitly address the criteria above (required). Please submit a complete resume listing all significant experiences, achievements, recognitions, and awards (required). It is recommended that the application form, narrative and resume be sent as an e-mail attachment to [Ludy.avalos@colostate.edu](mailto:Ludy.avalos@colostate.edu). Please be sure to reference the award name on the Subject line.

2. \*Three letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the academic or intellectual accomplishments of the applicant. At least one of these individuals should be college level instructors with whom the applicant has worked. The letters prepared for the application packet must be sent directly to the Graduate School by the authors (required). The Graduate School will accept references as part of the regular admission packet that don't address the McPherson criteria though it is to the student's advantage to have letters of recommendation that do so.

3. \*Official transcripts of all college work sent directly by the issuing institutions (required).

4. \*Scores on the General Test portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) if required by the department. Check requirement directly with the academic department to which the applicant is applying. If the applicant intends to study in the area of Business, the Graduate Management Aptitude Test (GMAT) may be required instead of the GRE. If required by the department for admissions, the scores from the GRE or GMAT must be reported directly by Educational Testing Service (required). Awards can be made on a conditional basis prior to arrival of scores from the Educational Testing Service.

\*These documents are submitted as part of the regular application for admission to Graduate School. If this has already been done, it is not necessary to provide additional copies expressly for the McPherson competition.