



# The Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Program

## BOB WILLIAMS; ROTARIAN OF OMNIPRESENT GOOD WORKS



If you walked anywhere with Bob Williams in downtown Pittsburgh, you alternated between half running to keep up with him and stopping on a dime to talk with the numerous friends that Bob would inevitably meet. Always gracious and mindful, Bob would never fail to introduce you to his (now your) friend.

Those walks were microcosms of Bob's life: he was a dynamo that seemed never to pause to rest, yet always paused to do random acts of thoughtfulness. His span of good works ran the gamut from contributing to The Rotary Foundation, to shaking hands with the speaker at the end of the weekly meeting (his hand inconspicuously held a personal check for the speaker's charitable organization), to giving money to the beggar woman who sat outside the Forbes Avenue CVS.

Bob was born in Robinson Township. His father, David E. Williams, was a legendary educator and administrator in the Montour School District; a junior high school building in that District bears his name. Bob attended Swarthmore College and Georgetown University Law Center. He was married for 41 years to his wife, Teresa. They have three children: Ben, Lizabeth, and Matthew, and seven grandchildren.

Bob's tenure as a Rotarian lasted for over 30 years. He was a Paul Harris Fellow eight times over – an inspiration to all Rotarians. Bob wore many hats – literally and figuratively. At Rotary and beyond, he was famous for his hat collection, which ranged from the ridiculous (a stuffed moose), to the sublime (a native American headdress).

Bob was also blessed with a fulfilling career on which to exercise his profound intellectual curiosity. He was an associate, then a partner, with Eckert Seamans, one of Pittsburgh's premier law firms. In 1995, he resigned from that firm on an amicable basis to lead his own team of lawyers. On Halloween of 1995, the firm of Williams Coulson was born. Throughout his career, Bob was listed consistently in many Super Lawyer and Best Lawyer publications, including a listing in the Best Lawyers in America.

Bob was trusted by his peers. He earned the loyalty and devotion of his clients, many of whom enjoyed decades-long relationships of representation and friendship. As one who lived the Gospel message, Bob took the same care with those of modest means that he took with the captains of industry.

At the Rotary Club of Pittsburgh's 23 Dec 09 meeting, the day after Bob's passing, Jim Droney, past president of Pittsburgh Rotary, described Bob perfectly: **"Bob always operated in that gentlemanly, modest, understated style that has all too often vanished from the business world today, . . . He was substance, not style"**. Present at that meeting was Bob's son, Ben, who had just been inducted into the Rotary Club of Scranton, PA earlier that week and was a visiting Rotarian that day at the Pittsburgh Club.

The Old Testament 2 Chronicles 16:9 states *"For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His."* This passage describes Bob's life as a recipient and conduit of blessings both material and divine. Bob was only 65 when he left us on December 15, 2009.

*The above written by Mary Jo Corsetti, Member, Pittsburgh Rotary, sponsored by Bob Williams; Partner, colleague and friend at Williams Coulson Attorneys*

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*This photo taken at Pittsburgh Rotary on May 23, 2007 when the then District Governor Bob Rupp and Rotary Foundation Trustee Lou Piconi presented The Rotary Foundation's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award to Bob.*

Bob was a Rotarian's Rotarian. He worked tirelessly for all his friends, especially in support for The Rotary Foundation and its endowment. Bob gave his talents and time freely to anyone who made a bequest to The Rotary Foundation's Permanent Fund.

Many of us who had the privilege to serve on a committee with Bob were blessed to interact with one of finest men God created. He was special. His entire adult life, Bob quietly, in his unassuming manner, gave hundreds of youth educational opportunities to grow up to become gentle and productive adults - the fabric that was Bob's character. He gave witness to the highest degree of professionalism, gentleness, fairness, compassion and made giving an art. Simply, many of us were privileged to know and call him friend. He made all those he met and touched better human beings. A friend said of Bob: **"One of the BEST of God's children, as to how he lived his life and treated others."** Another stated, **"Our loss was heaven's gain."**

Bob's endowed gift will forever provide scholarships to deserving youth and fund many local and international Rotary Foundation scholarships, ensuring that his legacy of gentleness, fairness, compassion and the privileged art of giving will continually be bridged to future generations.

**Thank you friend Bob.**

*....written by Louis Piconi, December 19, 2009*

**PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE THIS PAGE WITH APPLICATION SUBMISSION**



# The Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Program



**THIS IS A NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP (School Year 2024-25)**

The Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Program exists for high school seniors or non-traditional students. This program will award scholarships (up to \$5,000 for an academic year) to those candidates chosen by the Williams Scholarship Committee.

The Scholarship will be paid to the educational institution. Below you will find a list of requirements and rules. Failure to adhere to our rules or furnish the required application components will render the submitted application disqualified.

## **Criteria for Eligibility:**

**(This is a need based scholarship)**

- Applicant must be a citizen of The United States
- Applicant must have a 2.5 GPA or higher in their current year of study, regardless of the field of study
- Applicant must be a high school senior who is applying to a state-certified, post-secondary institution
- Applicant must be currently attending a high school within the boundaries of Allegheny & Beaver Counties. Burrell, Kiski & New Kensington-Arnold school districts in Westmoreland county
- All private, charter and parochial senior students within the designated service areas are eligible

**In the case of non- traditional students (who are not a graduating senior from a High School), the applicant must:**

- Be a citizen of The United States
- Have graduated from high school with a minimum grade point average of 2.50 or higher or have a G.E.D (General Education Diploma)
- Must have attended a high school or received G.E.D. by institution within the service area listed above
- Be applying to state-certified, post-secondary institution

## **APPLICATION COMPONENTS:**

Completed application form. All questions **must** be answered.

- Please provide full mailing address including zip code.
- Must include **total** number of children in family (biological & step-siblings) with ages including applicant.
- Must include **total** custodial family **yearly** income including all child support & alimony.
- Must include other grant information and itemization of any other financial aid and loans.
- **1. A separate page containing a 400-600 typewritten essay:**
  - a. Include how the scholarship will assist you in achieving your goals.
  - b. Include how your personal values and goals reflect those of Bob Williams (see first page).
  - c. Artificial Intelligence must not be used. It's use will disqualify the application.
- **2. A separate page outlining your community service projects and the impact they had on you (do not substitute a resume).**
- **3. A separate page outlining special school awards and recognition.**
- **4. A separate page outlining your school activities such as clubs, sports, performances, etc.**
- **Two letters of recommendation:**
  - a. One from a teacher or school administrator
  - b. One from a community leader
- Official high school transcript covering your freshman year through your most recent senior semester, including class rank or, in the case of non-traditional students, high school transcript or G.E.D.
- Deadline for turning in complete application package is the last day in February. Applications postmarked after the last day in February will not be accepted.

## **MAIL TO:**

**Attn: Jill Awes**

**Northern Westmoreland Career Technology Center, 705 Stevenson Blvd, New Kensington, PA 15068**

**Questions can be directed to Robert Arbuckle at 412-793-8393 or rarbuckle66@gmail.com**

**APPLICATIONS POSTMARKED AFTER THE LAST DAY IN FEBRUARY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**



# The Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Program



**THIS IS A NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP**

APPLICATION FORM (2024-25 School Year Graduating Students-  
for 2025-26 Post-Secondary Year)

(This application may be duplicated for multiple students)

**PLEASE HAND PRINT ALL TEXT**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please exclude Social Security number from all documentation)

High School and/or Career Center: \_\_\_\_\_

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ SAT or ACT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE TYPE EMAIL ADDRESS)

G.E. D. (General Education Diploma)  YES  NO

Number of children in family & ages (include yourself): \_\_\_\_\_

Planned Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree or Certification sought: \_\_\_\_\_

Total gross taxable current custodial family **yearly** income: \_\_\_\_\_ (Child support/alimony must be included)

Is there any non-taxable income, if so, from what source (disability, workers compensation, 401K, Mutual Bonds, Mutual Funds in IRA, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be receiving any other Grant or Scholarship money?  YES  NO  STILL WAITING

If yes to the above, from what source and how much? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you learn of this scholarship? \_\_\_\_\_

You may be asked to verify income through a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form from either immediate year or previous year; if there are any special circumstances about your financial situation, please describe them on a separate sheet. Should you receive this Scholarship and your student status changes, such as withdrawing from your post-secondary institution, you must notify, within one month, the Chairperson of the Williams Scholarship Committee, Dr. Robert Arbuckle, at [rarbuckle66@gmail.com](mailto:rarbuckle66@gmail.com), or risk forfeiture of the Scholarship. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

Please note that this Scholarship cannot be used by the student recipient's post-secondary institution to reduce the financial aid otherwise available to the student. This must be verified by the institution.

You may also be asked to make at least one report to The Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Committee and your local Rotary Club on your academic and career progress during any academic year you are financially supported by this Scholarship. Remember, artificial intelligence must not be used, especially for the required essay.

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and hereby grant the Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Committee permission to verify such statements and investigate all statements on this application. It may be considered sufficient cause for rejection of this application or for revocation of a scholarship award if such false information is discovered subsequent to receiving the award.

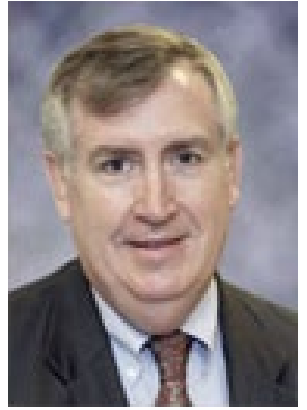
Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student)

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian) (not required for non- traditional students)

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# The Bob Williams Memorial Rotary Scholarship Program APPLICATION RANKING SHEET School Year 2024-25



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE READER: \_\_\_\_\_

(The following categories will be ranked with numbers 1-5, with #1 being lowest and #5 being highest)

CATEGORIES	NOTES	RATING	SCORE
Evaluation of Academic Performance*		X 2 = Score	
Essay Content*		X 2 = Score	
Essay Grammar			
Extra-Curricular School Activities & School Service			
Community Service (Outside of School)			
Feedback from Community Representatives, including Rotarians			
Sub-Total (Without Financial Need)		Sub-Total	
Financial need will be ranked according to annual family income**		X 2 = Score	
Total (With Financial Need)		Total Score	

\* Please note there are multiples to rank when scoring Academic Performance, Essay Content, and Financial Need.

\*\* With respect to final consideration for financial need, the committee will consider the number of children in each family and total custodial family yearly income.

**Additional Notes:**

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