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Ford Foundation selects nine RCC students;
11 are awarded Take Aim scholarships

A record nine Rogue Community College students have received Ford Family Foundation Scholarships, considered one of Oregon’s premier financial awards.

The scholarships pay 90 percent of students’ college expenses not covered by other sources and potentially help advance students’ college careers through graduate school. “Receiving such a scholarship opens a world of opportunity for the recipient,” said Anna Manley, director of RCC Financial Aid.

Established in 1957 the private, non-profit Ford Family Foundation is located in Roseburg and primarily funds education, human services, and civic and community enhancement in rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, Calif. The Ford Family Foundation received approximately 3,020 scholarship applications, including 13 from RCC, Manley said. A total of 180 students were granted scholarships.

RCC students Jennifer Bullock and Sara Davis received Ford Foundation Opportunity Program awards, designed specifically for single-parent heads of households who are pursuing a bachelor’s degree. Zachary Edwards, Kristie Fowler, and Dawn Neal were selected for the Ford Scholars program. It is open to graduating high school seniors and continuing community college students who are pursuing a bachelor’s degree and are ready to transfer to a four-year college.

Rosalina Peterson, Dawn Spencer, Katie Strong, and Monica Wickham each received Ford Re-Start scholarships, which support non-traditional adult students not currently enrolled full-time in postsecondary education.

In recent years approximately two to four RCC students have benefited from the Ford Family scholarship opportunities, Manley said. This year marks a new level of applicant success and reflects efforts that RCC Financial Aid staff members made to encourage and assist scholarship seekers. Jodie Fulton, assistant director of Financial Aid, Joe Momyer, counselor, and Manley, conducted interview workshops to help applicants prepare.

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Another 11 RCC students will receive a total of $27,000 in “Take Aim” scholarships from the Northwest Education Loan Association Center for Student Success. Take Aim Incentive scholarships provide $1,000 for students working to finish a two-year degree at an Oregon community college. RCC recipients are Gonzalo Castaneda, Nancy Collver, and Beverly Jones.

Take Aim Transfer Scholarships allocate $3,000 for Oregon community students transferring to an Oregon four-year college or university. RCC recipients are Michelle D’Acensio, Jeffrey Elsasser, Sandra Gladish, Elizabeth Pusch, Katie Strong, Oriana Ward, Brettani Webb, and Catherine Whitley.

Information about scholarship opportunities are posted on RCC’s “Scholarship Central” Website: www.roguecc.edu/FinancialAid/scholarship/

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