

ALL – USA Academic Team Competition

Open to *Eligible* MTC Students

The All-USA Academic Team is sponsored by *USA TODAY*, the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. The purpose of this program is to recognize scholarly achievements of students enrolled in community, technical and junior colleges. For the purpose of this award, “scholar” is defined as one who excels in the classroom; who has the intellectual curiosity to pursue academic, career, and cultural enrichment outside the traditional classroom; that shows evidence of substantial development of talents in academic and technical education; and who has demonstrated an ability to share this development with others.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. The student must be **currently enrolled at Midlands Technical College** and will be enrolled at least through **December 2009**.
2. The student must be eligible to graduate, **December 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010**.
3. Students must be on track to earn an Associate or a Bachelor degree. Must complete 36 semester, college level credits by December 31st, 2009 and 48 semester, college-level credits by August 31, 2010. Students must have a minimum of 30 semester, college-level credits in the past five years. The student must have a cumulative grade point average of not less than a 3.50 out of a possible 4.0 in all college credit coursework completed within the last five years (minimum of 12 semester hours).
4. Traditional, non-traditional, part-time, fulltime and international students may apply. Must not have been nominated previously for the All-USA Academic Team
5. Student’s records must be free from suspension, probation, or other serious disciplinary action between the time of this nomination and the AACC convention.
6. This is the only All-USA Academic Team program to which the nominee is applying this year. Other programs include the All-USA Four-Year College Academic Team and the All-USA Academic Team High School.

DEADLINE TO APPLY NOON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

Application Procedures

Packets are available through the Student Life Office (ASC 126/BSC 101). Or, students may download the application:

www.ptk.org/schol/aaat/announce.htm ACCESS CODE: ausat2010

Return completed packet to: Vanessa Brown/BSC 100 by NOON, Friday, November 20th to be considered as an MTC nominee.

Selection Procedures

The Midlands Technical College Student Honors Committee will review applications and submit two nominees to the All-USA Academic Team Review Committee.

Awards and Recognition

ALL-USA ACADEMIC TEAM PROGRAM

- 20 students named Gold Scholars (formerly first team) each receive a \$2,500 stipend, medallion, and are featured in *USA TODAY*.
- 20 students named Silver Scholars (formerly second team) each receive a \$1,500 stipend, medallion, and are listed in *USA TODAY*.
- 20 students named Bronze Scholars (formerly third team) each receive a \$1,000 stipend, medallion, and are listed in *USA TODAY*.



2010 USA TODAY All-USA Community College Academic Team 2010 Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team

AACC Coca-Cola Foundation Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation Phi Theta Kappa® USA TODAY

<http://scholarships.ptk.org>

Overview:

2010 marks the 20th anniversary of the All-USA Community College Academic Team. Nearly 1,000 students have been recognized and honored as representatives of community colleges in USA TODAY, and with the addition of the Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team, now even more opportunities are available for nominees. In partnership with USA TODAY, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, the Coca-Cola Foundation, AACC and Phi Theta Kappa, these expanded programs seek to honor more than 370 students as representatives of all outstanding community college students around the world. Nearly \$500,000 in stipends will be provided to students in 2010.

Publicity/Verification:

Because this is a public award, nominees must be aware that anything in the nomination form could become public through the media. Please note that USA TODAY has exclusive rights to press coverage of the All-USA Community College Academic Team recognition program. Phi Theta Kappa requests notification should any disciplinary action be brought against a nominee between the time of nomination and the AACC Convention. All nominees must send official transcripts reflecting fall 2009 grades and credits to be received by February 1, 2010.

Nomination Procedures:

- Each college may nominate two students per campus. The students must attend the nominating campus. Colleges may not nominate more than two nominees from a single campus.
- Additional forms may be downloaded from <http://scholarships.ptk.org> with the access code provided in the application packet mailed to each Campus President/CEO or designated contact.
- All forms, with official or unofficial transcripts, must be mailed in one packet. Photocopied forms may be sent in, but materials submitted via e-mail or fax will not be accepted. Make a photocopy of each nominee's application materials as copies cannot be provided after they have been submitted. Partial materials and incomplete applications, even sent before the deadline, are not accepted.
- All materials must be received (not postmarked) on or before December 1, 2009. Items received after the deadline will not be accepted.
- All nominees must send a final official transcript reflecting fall grades/credits; transcripts must be received no later than February 1, 2010. Failure to submit these transcripts may result in disqualification.

Send completed applications to:

Phi Theta Kappa, Scholarship Programs Department, 1625 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211.

ADVICE TO NOMINATORS AND NOMINEES:

The All-USA/All-State Academic Teams seek to honor outstanding students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines to serve as representatives of all outstanding community college students. Nominees may be pursuing an associate degree or intend to transfer and earn a baccalaureate degree. Please carefully review the eligibility criteria with your student nominees.

The All-USA/All-State Academic Teams are merit awards based on students' community college accomplishments. The centerpiece of the nomination is the essay about the nominee's most outstanding community college endeavor. The essay topic can focus on such issues as community service, research, the arts, journalism, public affairs, etc. The discussion questions give judges a sense of the nominee's background and commitments outside of school so they can place the nominee's achievements in context. Overcoming obstacles to attend community college and having family and/or work obligations are not criteria for the award.

Because the nomination form is written to match judging criteria, it is important to read the form carefully and follow directions precisely. Be specific and concise. All responses must be typed in a typeface no smaller than 10-point and adhere to length limits specified on the forms. Any additional materials (such as photographs or newspaper clippings) will be removed before judging and will not be returned. Accuracy is important. Make sure the total hours tallied for work, activities and classes do not exceed the total number of hours physically possible during that time period. All contents of the form are subject to verification, and students may be disqualified even after notification if their nomination forms contain inaccuracies.



2010 USA TODAY All-USA Community College Academic Team 2010 Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team

AACC Coca-Cola Foundation Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation Phi Theta Kappa® USA TODAY

<http://scholarships.ptk.org>

INSTITUTIONAL NOMINATION AND ELIGIBILITY FORM

Form A

To be completed and signed by the college president/campus CEO

Nominee's Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (M.I.)

Nominating Institution: _____ Campus: _____

College Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

College President/CEO Name: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Eligibility Data:

Yes No This institution is a candidate for accreditation or is currently accredited by the following regional accreditation association (check one):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools | <input type="checkbox"/> New England Association of Schools and Colleges |
| <input type="checkbox"/> North Central Association of Colleges and Schools | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Association of Colleges and Schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Association of Schools and Colleges |

If your institution is not located in the United States and you are nominating a student for the New Century Scholar program ONLY, check here.

- Yes No Is the nominee currently enrolled at this college and campus, and will the nominee be enrolled at least through December 2009?
- Yes No Will the nominee have at least 36 semester (or 48 quarter) college-level credit hours either completed at or transferred to a community college by December 31, 2009, and be on track to complete at least 48 semester hours (or 72 quarter) by August 30, 2010? (Do not include remedial/development coursework in total.)
- Yes No Will this nominee have a minimum of 30 semester (45 quarter) college-level credit hours completed at a community college within the past 5 years (Fall 2004-present)?
- Yes No Is the nominee on track to obtain an associate or bachelor's degree (or the equivalent of a US associate or bachelor's degree)?
- Yes No Does the nominee post a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 3.50 out of a possible 4.0 in all college-level credit coursework completed in the last five years (Fall 2004-present)? (Include coursework at all institutions attended in the past five years when calculating GPA. GPA is calculated at point of application.) (For institutions outside the U.S., nominees must rank in the top 10% of their class.)
- Yes No Is the nominee's record at this community college free from suspension, probation or other serious disciplinary action?
- Yes No Is this applicant's record free from any criminal conduct or, if the applicant is a convicted felon, has he or she completed all conditions of sentencing, including probation?
- Yes No Is this the first time this student has been nominated for the All-USA Community College Academic Team, Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team or New Century Scholar Program?
- Yes No Will the institution provide an updated official transcript by February 1, 2010?
- Yes No If this nominee is chosen as an All-USA First Team member and/or New Century Scholar, and is attending a college located in the United States, will the institution provide travel and accommodation expenses for the nominee to attend the AACC convention in Seattle, Washington? (Student winners outside of the United States are not required to travel.)
- Yes No Will the institution notify Phi Theta Kappa should the nominee face suspension, probation or other serious disciplinary action between the time of this nomination and the AACC convention?
- Yes No If this nominee is chosen as a First Team member and/or New Century Scholar, will the institution provide up to four 5"x7" professional quality, color photographs or a 300dpi digital photograph for publicity purposes?
- Yes No Does the nominee understand any part of this form may become public through the media should the nominee win?
- Yes No Will the institution refrain from publicly announcing any All-USA Academic Team members before April 19, 2010, when winners are announced at the AACC convention in Seattle, Washington?

IF YOU HAVE CHECKED NO ON ANY OF THE ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS ON THIS PAGE,

THIS NOMINEE IS INELIGIBLE

To be considered for the All-USA Community College Academic Team and Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team Programs

President/CEO waiver:

I consider this nominee to be of good character and an exceptional and responsible member of the academic community. All information included here is true to the best of my knowledge.

(Signature of College President/CEO)

(Date)

**BIOGRAPHICAL
FORM**
Form B

To be completed by
the nominee

1. Personal Information

Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (M.I.)

Are you a Phi Theta Kappa Member? Yes No Phi Theta Kappa Member Number: _____

(Membership is NOT required to apply unless you are outside of the U.S. Your member ID# can be found on your membership card. If you do not have your membership card, please contact Key Services at 800.946.9995.)

Nominating Institution: _____ Campus: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Permanent Home Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Home Phone: (__) _____ Cell Phone: (__) _____ Email: _____
(One that will follow you when you move)

Course of Study: _____ Highest Degree Objective: _____

Current degree expected (check one) AA AS AAS BA BS Date Expected: ____/____/____
MO / YR

If you are expecting an Associate Degree, do you intend to transfer? Yes No
(Transferring to a college or university is NOT required for consideration.)

Career Goal: _____

College-Level Credits: Earned: _____ Quarter Hours Semester Hours
Currently Carried: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____ (4.0 scale)

(Include all college-level coursework in the past 5 years, fall 2004-present, even if at multiple institutions. GPA is evaluated at the point of application.)

How did you hear about this scholarship opportunity? _____

Gender (optional): ____ M ____ F

Race (optional):

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian, Asian-American or Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Citizenship Status (required):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Permanent Resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cuban-Haitian Entrant | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. National |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asylee | <input type="checkbox"/> Humanitarian Parolee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refugee | <input type="checkbox"/> International Student with "F" Visa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Resident (legalization program) | <input type="checkbox"/> International Student with "M" Visa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list) _____ | |

Use additional pages to complete the following sections. Put each answer on a separate sheet of paper. Number each part and include your name, school and email address at the top of each page. Double space your answers, use type no smaller than 10-point, pay attention to length limits and please use complete names rather than acronyms. Do not include any information that you would not want released publicly. Contents are subject to rigorous fact-checking.

2. TRANSCRIPTS (with optional addendum)

When you submit your application materials, please include official transcripts from ALL colleges you have attended in the past five years (fall 2004-present), even if you are no longer attending. The transcript for your current institution may be an official or unofficial transcript. In addition, you must send separately, for arrival by February 1, 2010, a final official transcript reflecting fall semester 2009 grades and credits, and they must show that you have completed 36 semester (or 48 quarter) college-level credits by December 31, 2009. Transcripts are used to verify your GPA and your GPA is reviewed at the point of application. If your transcript shows remedial or developmental courses (e.g. Pre-Algebra or Basic Writing, usually characterized as being below 100 level coursework), those courses and grades will be removed to determine your cumulative GPA and total number of completed credits. If you would like to explain special circumstances that have affected the transcript (withdrawals or a drop in grades, for example), an addendum of no more than half a typed page will be accepted. Judges will deduct points for a large number of withdrawals or a drop in grades without adequate explanation.

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (each answer may not exceed one half typed page).

A) If applicable, describe paid positions, with dates and estimated time spent, as well as family or other non-volunteer obligations you have, while attending community college (do not include activities listed in other sections of this application).

B) Why did you choose to attend a community college?

Form B

To be completed by
the nominee

**Please assemble the
application in the
following order:**

- 1) **Form A**
(Institutional nomination/
eligibility form)
- 2) **Form B**
(Student's signed
biographical form)
- 3) Transcript, with optional
addendum
- 4) Discussion question A
- 5) Discussion question B
- 6) Campus involvement
- 7) Community involvement
- 8) Letter of Recommendation 1
(Leadership letter)
- 9) Student essay
- 10) Letter of Recommendation 2
(Endeavor letter)

**This application must be
received on or before
December 1, 2009, at**

**Phi Theta Kappa
Scholarship Programs
Department
1625 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211**

4. CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT (may not exceed one typed page).

Using numbers or bullets rather than paragraph form, list NO MORE THAN THREE community college organizations in which you have participated. Feel free to include any honors or awards received related to your involvement. Be certain to include dates, leadership positions held, time spent (hours/week), plus specific activities or duties performed and scope or impact of your work. Do not include activities listed in the previous sections. Judges will consider ONLY the first page.

5. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (may not exceed one typed page).

Using numbers or bullets rather than paragraph form, list NO MORE THAN THREE community activities in which you have participated since you have been enrolled in community college. Feel free to include any honors or awards received related to your activities. Be certain to include dates, leadership positions held, time spent (hours/week), plus specific activities or duties performed and scope or impact of your work. Do not include activities listed in the previous sections. Judges will consider ONLY the first page.

6. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1 (Leadership letter).

Letters of recommendation give judges an expanded picture of the nominee's academic and leadership accomplishments and civic involvement. This letter must be from a current community college faculty member, administrator or dean and should give specific examples of how the student has demonstrated leadership abilities, service involvement, and impact outside the classroom. This letter must not exceed two pages typed and double-spaced, must be typed on letterhead in type no smaller than 10 point, and signed. Your letter must be clearly identified as letter of recommendation #1 at the bottom of the letter.

Current Community College: (check one) Faculty Member Administrator Dean
Name: _____ Known: _____ mo/yr
Title: _____
Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

7. ESSAY QUESTION (may not exceed two pages, typed and double-spaced).

Describe your most significant endeavor since attending community college in which you applied your academic or intellectual skills from your community college education to benefit your school, community or society. The essay topic can focus on such issues as community/service, research, the arts, journalism, public affairs, etc. Judges will consider originality, initiative, degree of difficulty, results and benefit to society. ONLY two double-spaced typed pages will be considered. Please limit your answer to ONE specific endeavor.

8. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #2 (Endeavor letter)

The second letter of recommendation should be from a mentor or supervisor who was directly involved in the endeavor that the nominee writes about in the essay. This letter should focus on the merits and impact of the endeavor discussed in the nominee's essay. If the endeavor discussed in the essay is a group project, the mentor should discuss the role the student played in the project and its success. This letter must not exceed two pages typed and double-spaced, must be typed on letterhead in type no smaller than 10 point, and signed. Your letter must be clearly identified as letter of recommendation #2 at the bottom of the letter.

Mentor From: (check one) Campus Community Professional
Name: _____ Known: _____ mo/yr
Title: _____
Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

9. WAIVER AND SIGNATURE(S)

I agree to allow myself to be placed in nomination for the 2010 All-USA Community College Academic Team and the Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team. The information I have submitted is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the contents of this nomination are subject to verification. I acknowledge that if any of the contents of this form are untrue or if I engage in activities inconsistent with being held up nationally as an outstanding student, I could be disqualified even after notification. I understand that should I be named to the national team, anything submitted as part of this nomination form could become available to the public (excluding social security numbers).

(Signature of applicant)

(Date)

(Optional) I authorize Phi Theta Kappa to release my nomination information to four-year colleges and universities interested in providing scholarships to All-USA Community College Academic Team and/or Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team nominees.

(Signature of applicant)

(Date)



2010 Guistwhite Scholarship Application

This form is for use by Phi Theta Kappa members ONLY.
Please read carefully as these requirements are slightly different than All-USA.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The applicant must be an active member of Phi Theta Kappa.
- The applicant must be enrolled in a community college through December 2009.
- Students need to have at least 45 semester (or 60 quarter) college-level credits completed at or accepted for transfer by your community college by December 31, 2009, and must also intend to have at least 53 semester (or 79.5 quarter) college-level credits at community college by August 31, 2010. Students must have at least 30 semester (or 45 quarter) college-level credit hours completed at a community college in the past five years (Fall 2004-present).
- The applicant must post a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 grading scale on all college-level coursework completed within the last five years (Fall 2004-present). Include coursework at all institutions attended in the past five years when calculating GPA. GPA is evaluated at the point of application.
- The applicant should expect to transfer to a four-year college in 2010. At the time of transfer to a regionally accredited four-year college, the student must be admitted with junior-level status in his/her major program of study and be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours per semester.
- The applicant's record must be free from suspension, probation or other disciplinary action.



If your ALL-USA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC TEAM nominee is also a PHI THETA KAPPA member, he/she may complete these two additional questions and attach them to the back of the All-USA Application to also apply for the Guistwhite Scholarship.

Phi Theta Kappa members who are not All-USA nominees and who are interested in applying for the Guistwhite Scholarship may download a Guistwhite Scholarship Application on the Phi Theta Kappa website at <http://www.ptk.org/schol/guistwhite/welcome.htm>.

To be considered:

To be considered for a Guistwhite Scholarship, answers to the two questions below must accompany your completed All-USA Community College Academic Team nomination. Please attach this signed form and questions 1 and 2 as the last pages to the All-USA nomination.

Use additional pages to complete the following section. Use type no smaller than 10 point. Number each part and include your name, school and email address at the top of the page. Pay attention to length limits. For question one (1), organize your answer in an easy-to-read format using bullets, numbers or charts rather than paragraph format.

1. Phi Theta Kappa activities (may not exceed one typed page).

List NO MORE THAN THREE Phi Theta Kappa activities in which you have participated, with dates, leadership positions held, time spent (hours/week), specific activities or duties performed, and scope or impact of your work. Judges will consider ONLY the first page.

2. Discussion question (may not exceed one typed page).

Describe the activity in which you participated as a member of Phi Theta Kappa that had the greatest impact on your life. Judges will consider ONLY the first page.

Overview:

The purpose of this merit-based scholarship program is to enhance Phi Theta Kappa members' attainment of baccalaureate degrees. Additionally, this program serves to recognize members' academic and leadership achievements, particularly as they relate to involvement in Phi Theta Kappa programs.

Cash Awards:

Up to twenty Guistwhite Scholars will each receive a \$5,000 scholarship. The cash awards will be disbursed prior to each academic term. Scholars enrolled full-time will receive four equal payments of \$1,250 per semester. Awards for part-time Scholars will be disbursed as follows: \$925 per semester for Scholars enrolled 9-11 hours and \$625 per semester for Scholars enrolled in 6-8 hours. These amounts will be awarded until the total amount of the scholarship has been disbursed or the student discontinues attendance in a baccalaureate degree program. In addition, certain criteria will be required in order to maintain the scholarship (e.g. 3.0 GPA, no incomplete coursework, minimum enrollment of 6 credit hours, etc.). Guistwhite Scholars will receive certificates and commemorative medallions.

I have read the eligibility criteria and have reviewed my application to ensure I meet all requirements.

Signature of Applicant

Date

