

**2012 Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC)**  
**Buster Bynum Education Scholarship**

This is a one-time \$1,000 education scholarship award made to **two deserving public school students** in each of the 14-member southeastern states. These states include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. The scholarship awards are made to the postsecondary school selected by the awarded student.

**2012 Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation Conference (TAPT) Education Scholarship**

This is a one-time \$500 education scholarship award made to **three deserving public school students**. One scholarship is awarded in each of the three grand divisions of Tennessee (West, Middle and East). The scholarship awards are made to the postsecondary school selected by the awarded student.

**Applicants are required to submit only one (1) application to be considered for one or both of the above scholarship awards.**

**Application Form Must Be Completed and Received On or Before April 15, 2012**

**SESPTC and TAPT Award Guidelines**

Note: Only Tennessee school districts which are active members of the Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation may submit applications. The applicant should check with the local transportation department to confirm that the district is a TAPT Member District. To be considered an "Active TAPT Member District," one or more district representative(s) must have registered and attended the Annual Tennessee Pupil Transportation Conference in 2010 or 2011.

1. The parent/guardian listed had a Gross Taxable Family Income equal to or less than \$75,000 for each of the "Past Five Tax Years." (For the purpose of this scholarship award, the past five tax years are defined as the 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 tax years.)
2. The parent/guardian listed above has been an active employee in public school transportation during the past five years. This includes employees as **school bus drivers, aides, monitors, mechanics, parts clerks, foremen, managers, trainers, supervisors, directors and inspectors** that work in public education.
3. The student applicant has at least a 3.0 (B) scholastic average, will graduate from a public high school, and will attend a postsecondary educational institution in the fall of 2012.

**The SESPTC and the TAPT Scholarship Application must include the following letters of reference:**

1. A letter from the parent's/guardian's most recent employer verifying employment in public school transportation since January 1, 2007, and documenting financial need (Gross Taxable Family Income equal to or less than \$75,000 for each of the past five tax years). Submit with the application: A letter from the school district stating that the parent/guardian has not made more than \$75,000 per year or copies of the past five years' IRS statements (W-2s).
2. A letter from the student's high school guidance counselor or other authorized high school official verifying the student's grade-point average, anticipated graduation date from high school, and planned attendance at a postsecondary educational institution in the fall of 2012.
3. A letter of support from a teacher or an adult family acquaintance of the student stating why the award should be made to this student.

## **State Selection Committee**

Board of Directors Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation

Each TAPT Board member will have one vote. By majority vote, the Board will have total authority to select the state scholarship winners based on the qualifications and any additional factors the committee deems appropriate.

### **Award Process**

Prior to July 15, 2012, the scholarship award will be made to the postsecondary institution that the student will attend. The scholarship cannot be awarded to any student who has a family member serving on the selection committee.

## **Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference Buster Bynum Scholarship and the Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation Scholarship Application Information and Instructions 2012**

### **Section I Applicant Personal Information**

1. Each state recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship must be a high school senior from a SESPTC/TAPT member state that has a parent or guardian employed in the public school pupil transportation field for at least the past five years (since January 1, 2007).
2. Selection of applicants will be based on the following criteria:
  - ✓ **Scholarship** - The student shall have a cumulative grade point average (grades 9-11) of 3.0 (B) minimum as verified by official high school academic records.
  - ✓ **Leadership** - The student shall have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and abilities in co-curricular activities and community service activities.
  - ✓ **Citizenship** - The student shall have demonstrated exemplary citizenship qualities that include not only maturity, loyalty, responsibility, integrity and trustworthiness but also a concern for the well-being of all citizens.
  - ✓ **Service** - The student shall have rendered unselfish service and assistance to others, to the school, and to the community.
  - ✓ **Essay** - The student shall have explained in a **typed essay** of not more than 500 words why he/she applied for the scholarship and how the scholarship will be used.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND PLANS FOR AWARDING THE SCHOLARSHIP**

1. In the second semester of their senior year, students who meet the general criteria will complete an application in which information supporting excellence in the five areas above will be noted. The application must be typed and contain all information requested. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.** Applications are available at <http://www.tapt.org>. Completed applications should be submitted to the Executive Director of the Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation. The mailing address is listed at the end of this document.
2. Additionally, each applicant shall be required to submit a typed essay of not more than 500 words, which explains why the student has applied and how the student would use the scholarship if selected. The essay must be submitted at the time of application, and applicants are encouraged to proofread their essays for spelling, grammar and syntax.
3. The application must be submitted to the TAPT Executive Director **no later than April 15, 2012**. Only **one** application from each school system or district will be judged at the state level. If a TAPT member school district submits more than one applicant from the district, the selection committee will judge all district applicants and choose one (1) district applicant to compete at the state level.
4. The TAPT Scholarship Selection Committee will select the state's final applicants.
5. The finalist will be notified by Larry Riggsbee, Executive Director, Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation..
6. Official presentation of the scholarships will take place at the annual Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation Pupil Conference and Equipment Show, June 4-6, 2012. The conference is held at the Music Road Hotel and Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Applicants do not have to be present to receive the scholarship award.

### **Check list of the SESPTC and TAPT Award Guidelines/Requirements**

- ✓ Postmarked on or before April 15, 2012.
- ✓ Questions: Larry Riggsbee, 615-406-9199 (**exceptions to the guidelines will not be approved**).
- ✓ Your school district must be an active member of TAPT.
- ✓ One application submitted will make you eligible for consideration for both scholarship awards.
- ✓ All applications will be reviewed by the selection committee; however, only one application from each TAPT member district will be chosen to be judged at the state level.
- ✓ Applicants for the TAPT scholarship are only competing with other applicants from a given "Grand Division" of the Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation (West-Middle-East).
- ✓ One \$500 TAPT award for each of three grand divisions.
- ✓ Two \$1,000 SESPTC scholarships awarded statewide (competing statewide).
- ✓ The SESPTC applications are judged and awarded statewide.
- ✓ Actual awards are mailed to the Financial Aid Office of Educational Institution chosen by the recipient. The check is made payable to the recipient and the educational institution.

- ✓ **The applicant should submit only the application below, not the requirements/directions printed above.**

**Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC)  
Buster Bynum Scholarship Application  
&  
Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation (TAPT) Scholarship Application**

**SECTION I**

**APPLICANT PERSONAL INFORMATION**

*The parent/guardian on behalf of his or her child must submit the application.*

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Must have been a school transportation employee since January 1, 2007.)

Parent/Guardian's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip Code

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School from Which the Student Will Graduate in 2012: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip Code

Name of the Organization Employing the Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Organization's Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip Code

Employer Contact Person's Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II**      **EDUCATIONAL DATA** (USE N/A IF FIELD IS NOT APPLICABLE)

**1. School now attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rank:** \_\_\_\_\_      **In class of:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Number

**CEEB/SAT/ACT Test** \_\_\_\_\_      **GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Score

**2. College(s) /Vocational/Technical school(s) to which you seek admission.**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_



4. Why do you desire to continue your education?

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**SECTION IV**      **WORK EXPERIENCE**

1. List any part-time or full-time work experience(s).

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2. List any special interests or hobbies.

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**SECTION V**      **ESSAY**

Please describe in a typed essay, **500 words or less**, why you have applied for the scholarship and how you would use the scholarship. (You must submit the essay as an attachment to your application.)

**Please check the application for completeness before signing below. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2012.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of High School Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

**Note: Only Tennessee school districts who are active members of the Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation may submit applications. The applicant should check with the local transportation department to confirm that the district is a TAPT Member District. To be considered an "Active TAPT Member District," one or more district representative must have registered and attended the Annual Tennessee Pupil Transportation Conference in 2010 or 2011. The conference registration records will be checked.**

To: Transportation Director:

Your signature below certifies that the parent or guardian listed below has been a school transportation employee since January 1, 2007.

The above named parent or guardian's job was \_\_\_\_\_.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Local Director of Transportation*

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Local Director of Transportation*

School System: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2012**

**Mail Applications to:**

**Larry Riggsbee, Executive Director  
Tennessee Association for Pupil Transportation  
P. O. Box 700  
Portland, TN 37148-0700  
615-406-9199**