



# EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

Investing in our Region's Future

## 2021-22 SCHOLARSHIPS AT A GLANCE



**122 NEW**  
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



**220 STUDENTS**

(representing 225 ETF scholarship awards) are attending  
50 DIFFERENT POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

APPROXIMATELY **\$1.17** MILLION DOLLARS  
is currently committed to ETF's continuing and new scholarship recipients



More than **250** SELECTION COMMITTEE  
VOLUNTEERS helped select scholarship recipients



*“Not only is this scholarship helping fund my school, but this scholarship makes me feel determined and powerful. I feel like nothing can stop me from achieving my dreams! I hope you know that today you changed a young girl's life. I might not know you personally, but no one has ever helped me as much as you are helping me now. This scholarship has taught me that there are good helpful people out there who want to help and watch me succeed. Even though you may not be my family, I now feel like I am part of this scholarship family. There were times in my life when I felt like giving up on everything. I felt like no one in the world cared about me, but I now know that you care. I know that you want me to succeed. I promise I will succeed not only for myself, but also for you. Thank you for supporting and caring for a young girl you may have never met.”*

-Steven L. Coffey Memorial Scholarship Recipient

## ETF SCHOLARSHIP FACTS

**70** scholarship funds at ETF are actively awarding scholarships to help fulfill the dreams of students wishing to obtain a post-secondary education, whether they are graduating high school seniors or returning adult students.

Nearly **\$10** million dollars in ETF scholarship awards has helped more than **1,400** students since 1986.

ETF administers approximately **\$30** million in scholarship funds.

Scholarships are available to residents in all **25** counties in our region.

Scholarships administered by ETF allow individuals and groups to honor loved ones while helping change the lives of those pursuing higher education. Many of the scholarships have been established to memorialize a parent, spouse, or child. Others honor teachers, coaches, or prominent community leaders.

# 5 NEW ETF SCHOLARSHIPS LAUNCHING IN 2022

## LEW AND JANICE WEEMS SCHOLARSHIP:

*Established to benefit students of all ages from Blount, Knox, and Washington counties with financial need, with preference given to first generation students and students who are parents.*

## BRITTANY JOHNSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

*Established in memory of Brittany Johnson to assist students from our 25-county region pursuing an undergraduate degree. Preference given to female basketball players with financial need attending Maryville College.*

## FIELDING AND JOYCE ROLSTON GOLF SCHOLARSHIP:

*To provide scholarship assistance to members of the Dobyys-Bennett High School boys golf team.*

## FIELDING AND JOYCE ROLSTON POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP:

*To benefit students in Sullivan and Washington counties in TN pursuing a post-secondary education.*

## FIELDING AND JOYCE ROLSTON WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP:

*To provide scholarship assistance to members of the Science Hill High School boys wrestling team.*



2021 RECIPIENTS OF THE MICHAEL DAVID GREENE SCHOLARSHIP  
L TO R: TERRANCE JONES AND GRACE HAMPTON



2021 RECIPIENTS OF THE JOHNSON COUNTY EDUCATION GROWTH SCHOLARSHIP  
L TO R: HAILIE REECE, LAUREN PATERSON, HAILEY POLLARD, TREVOR GENTRY, TRINITY CARIDAS, AND BRETT WARD

## DID YOU KNOW?

Approximately **33%** of our scholarship recipients are members of the **first generation** in their family to attend a post-secondary institution.



*“Tears filled my eyes; I began to sob—my dream was not just a dream anymore. It was about to become my reality. Thank you all, for believing in me. For continuing to reward students for their educational and community devotion. For helping build futures. For paving the way for a first-generation college student to become just that: a college student. Thank you for making my dream come true. No amount of words can express the thanks I wish to give.”*

– A FIRST GENERATION RECIPIENT’S REACTION

# ETF SCHOLARSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

The **GORDON W. AND AGNES P. COBB** and **E.E. PERRY** scholarships represent our two largest scholarship funds. Each student securing one of these scholarships is awarded \$10,000 per year for four years, totaling \$40,000 per student.

The **GORDON W. AND AGNES P. COBB** Scholarship was established through a bequest from Agnes P. Cobb Yoakum as a tribute to her late husband and to the field of medical science. Gordon W. and Agnes P. Cobb graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in 1951, and Agnes, who graduated with highest honors, was one of the first female pharmacists in Knoxville.

Both Gordon and Agnes Cobb cultivated their interest in pharmacy while working in drug stores throughout high school and college. Gordon, a World War II Naval veteran, operated Sonner's Drug Store until his death in 1973. Agnes began her pharmaceutical career at Ellis & Ernest Drug Store and later operated Sonner's Drug Store for several years after her husband's death.

The **GORDON W. AND AGNES P. COBB** Scholarship benefits Blount, Knox, and Loudon County students with financial need pursuing a career in healthcare. It was established at ETF in 1996 and has awarded over \$3.3 million to 96 students.

The words of one **GORDON W. AND AGNES P. COBB** Scholarship recipient capture the impact of this life-changing scholarship:

*“I don't mean to sound overly emotional or dramatic; however, I can't help but wonder if the scholarship quite literally saved my life by gifting me an opportunity to make it out and flourish. The foundation has indirectly affected every patient that I've cared for and will care for, my future children and grandchildren, and whole generations after me. You all helped me break the cycle.*

*I firmly believe that none of this, and I mean none of this, would have been possible without East Tennessee Foundation and Agnes P. Cobb Yoakum. And for that, I can never thank you enough.”*

The **E.E. PERRY** Scholarship was established through a bequest from Dr. E.E. Perry of Elizabethton. A lifelong learner, Perry left home at the age of 17 and joined the Army. He fought in the Korean War and, by the age of 21, had attained the rank of master sergeant. During the Vietnam War, Perry re-entered the military as a member of the Medical Corps, retiring as a colonel.

Dr. Perry practiced medicine in and was the medical examiner for Carter County. Having grown up with few resources and as a firm believer in education, Dr. Perry wanted to assist students who do not have the financial resources to obtain a college education.

The **E.E. PERRY** Scholarship benefits Carter County students with financial need pursuing science, math (not accounting or business-related), engineering, or pre-med fields of study. It began awarding in 2016 and has awarded \$680,000 to 17 students.



2021 RECIPIENTS OF THE JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP  
L TO R: ISAAC BROWN, CHRISTOPHER MOREFIELD, JOSEPH SAVERY,  
AND LOGAN HAMPTON

One recipient says,

*“I want to first say thank you for the consideration of my application and selecting me to be a recipient of the **E.E. Perry Scholarship**. With this financial support attained, I am able to further my academic career at my first-choice university. Dr. Perry left behind a great legacy in our community; a legacy that I hope to uphold and pass along. It is an honor to be selected, and an even bigger honor to be able to be a first-generation college student. Thank you for the opportunities the foundation has already given, the opportunities to be given, and entrusting me to carry on the great legacy of Dr. Perry.”*

# WHAT MAKES ETF SCHOLARSHIPS UNIQUE?

- FLEXIBILITY:** We meet with potential donors individually to discuss the process of establishing a scholarship fund and their preferred degree of involvement. We help them identify their scholarship goals and desired criteria to ensure that the scholarship reflects their unique philanthropic intent.
- STEWARDSHIP:** All ETF scholarships are endowed, so they are permanent and provide a legacy which serves future generations of students. ETF is committed to honoring donor intent. To that end, ETF's Board of Directors has the authority to exercise variance power. Variance power is a distinctive feature of community foundations that allows ETF to continue to fulfill a donor's charitable intent as time goes by and circumstances change.
- CRITERIA:** ETF scholarship eligibility requirements include a wide variety of criteria to enable students from many counties and differing backgrounds, strengths, challenges, and interests to apply. ETF is one of a few programs to offer scholarship opportunities for part-time students, which is especially critical for adult students.
- SELECTION:** There are many factors that contribute to applicants' unique circumstances and qualifications. Committees composed of educators, community volunteers, and subject matter experts consider a student's whole picture when reviewing and comparing applications. In 2021 we had over 250 selection committee volunteers!
- STUDENT SUPPORT:** We truly believe in ETF scholarship recipients and their experience as one of "our" students. We give ETF scholarship recipients who do not meet renewal requirements the chance to explain extenuating circumstances and to describe their plan to address their challenges. In addition, we advocate for our recipients with educational institutions, when needed, to maximize their scholarship benefits.
- ASSESSING NEEDS:** We continually seek input regarding scholarship needs of students in our region. We can share insights gained with prospective donors so the scholarships they establish may address the needs of students in our region.
- BEST PRACTICES:** ETF keeps current with nationally recognized best practices. Through membership in the National Scholarship Providers Association, we stay abreast of scholarship-related topics and trends, and ETF maintains compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.
- MEASURING IMPACT:** Through exit interviews, scholarship recipient forms, and conversations, ETF collects, analyzes, and reports data on the impact of scholarship programs.

**IF YOU HAVE A DREAM OF FURTHERING THE EDUCATION OF OTHERS  
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME, PLEASE CONTACT SHARON MOORE AT  
SMOORE@ETF.ORG OR BETH HELLER AT BHELLER@ETF.ORG  
OR CALL 877-524-1223.**