

**Robert S. Gee Phoenix Scholarship**  
New Guidelines and Q and A

The Phoenix Scholarship has been re-named in honor of Robert S. Gee who passed away in 2004. Bob Gee was a local attorney and long-time board member of the Foundation. Prior to his death, Mr. Gee served as chairman of the Phoenix Committee and was instrumental in developing a new format for the Phoenix Scholarship.

In the past, the Phoenix has awarded summer camp fees to students seeking summer opportunities. Under the new guidelines of the Bob S. Gee Phoenix Scholarships, teachers will nominate students for the scholarships based on academic excellence, leadership abilities, and socio-economic need.

To better understand the new guidelines, we have developed a Question and Answer form to anticipate questions teachers and administrators may have regarding the changes. Any additional questions can be addressed to Ginny Stinson, Chairperson of the Phoenix Committee, at 540-0813, or to the chairman of the Foundation. We want to express our appreciation for the input of the middle school and high school teachers who served on the committee to formulate the new guidelines.

**1. What are the criteria for nominating a student?**

- a. The students must be in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> grades in the Miami Public Schools.
- b. The student must exhibit academic excellence, personal traits and potential, and have socio-economic need.
- c. The selected scholars will be eligible for financial assistance for the upcoming summer and following academic year. (or one calendar year)

**2. How are students nominated?**

A teacher who identifies a student who meets the criteria may download and complete a Teacher Nominating Form off the web site. A teacher may nominate more than one student. The nominating teacher will then provide a Parent Support form to the student's parents for completion by the student's family. The completed Parent Support form will be submitted with the completed Teacher Nomination form to Mary at Central Office.

**3. When are Teacher Nomination forms due and where do teachers submit completed forms?**

Teacher Nominating Forms are due in the spring and should be submitted to at Central Office.

**4. How will the Bob S. Gee Phoenix scholars be selected?**

A Phoenix Committee comprised of Foundation members, and administrators will receive the applications and will narrow the pool of candidates to six students to be interviewed by the end of April. Interviews will be conducted and an announcement will be made regarding the selected scholars by the April membership meeting.

**5. What are some examples of appropriate requests for financial assistance?**

Appropriate requests for financial assistance include almost anything that assists the scholar to pursue academic or extra-curricular achievement related to school endeavors such as, but not limited to, band, debate, Science fair, etc.

**6. Who will sponsor the selected scholars?**

The nominating teacher will serve as the teacher/sponsor for the nominated scholar during their tenure in the nominating teacher's building. If the nominating teacher is unable to serve as a sponsor for the selected scholar, the committee will assist the scholar in finding a sponsor teacher.

**7. How does the teacher/sponsor request funding?**

The teacher/sponsor submits a Phoenix requisition form to Central Office, and it be will forwarded to the Phoenix Committee for consideration.

**8. For what length of time is the selected scholar eligible for assistance?**

Selected scholars are eligible for assistance through their senior year in the Miami Public Schools. However, each student scholar must annually submit an accountability form to the Phoenix Committee for evaluation. The accountability form will also be available for downloading on the web site. The accountability form will be due annually before April 1.