

2017 Life Grant Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Hill Country Optimist Club Life Grant? The Hill Country Optimist Club Life Grant are non-renewable scholarships created to recognize graduates who have demonstrated the initiative and dedication to continue their education or seek career training. The scholarships are awarded up to \$500 increments. The Life Grant was established to assist at-risk youth taking their first steps in building a career, regardless of what that may be.

What are the details of the award?

- The Hill Country Optimist Club Life Grant is up to \$500 (Thanks to The Hill Country Optimist Club and private donors.)
- All awards must be used by December 31, 2017.
- The grant can be applied to tuition and fees and/or supplies for enrollment at a college/university, vocational/technical institute, or job training in the United States.
- **Fund use is open and flexible to allow for different situations and circumstance, but must be used in accordance with the above requirements.**

Who is eligible to receive the awards? Hill Country Optimist Club Life Grant is open to any graduating high school senior that attends the Meadowland Charter School. Additionally, the student must enter a college/university, vocational/technical institute, or job training during the Fall 2017.

How do students apply for the Life Grant? Students are encouraged to apply online at hillcountryoptimist.org/lifegrant by May 12, 2017. Note: Incomplete applications will not be considered.

How do I check the status of my application or make changes to my application?

- You will NOT be able edit the grant application after it has been digitally signed and submitted.
- All applicants will be notified of the grant award status in early June 2017.

What happens after the May 12, 2017 deadline? A selection committee will pick a group of up to 3 awardees. Awardees will be notified of their selection in early June 2017.

How many students will receive the Life Grant? Up to 3 students will receive Hill Country Optimist Club Life Grant.

How are the applicants selected? The Life Grant is administered by the scholarship selection committee of the Hill Country Optimist Club. The selection committee is comprised of educators and business leaders from the Boerne Community and will be responsible for selecting the scholarship recipients. The

Friend of Youth

selection committee will consider the applicants academic records, short response answers, and career needs. Decisions of the selection committee are final and not subject to appeal.

What qualities should be identified in an applicant? The Hill Country Optimist Clubs goals is to support graduates and their continuing education/career goals and help provide career tools and materials needed.

What are my responsibilities as a Life Grant Winner?

- Enroll at an college/university, vocational/technical institute, or job training during the Fall of 2017.
- Continue in school the entire academic year (may vary) without interruption unless approved by the Hill Country Optimist Club scholarship committee.
- Submit a funds designation form detailing use of grant funds.
- Stay in touch with the Hill Country Optimist Club in years following to keep them informed of your chosen career path.

How and when are grant funds issued? Pending final approval by the committee, payment will be arranged directly with the designated institution/vendor. It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the Hill Country Optimist Club of any problems with the payment.

Program Administration

To assure complete impartiality in selection of winners and to maintain a high level of professionalism, the program is administered by the Scholarship Committee of the Hill Country Optimist Club at grants@hillcountryoptimistclub.com.