

# The Moral Courage Foundation

[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

*2023 Moral Courage Scholarship  
Application Packet*





**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**  
[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Student Eligibility**

In order to be eligible to apply for a Moral Courage Scholarship, the following two eligibility requirements must be met.

1. **SCHOOL GRADE REQUIREMENT:** The applicant must be enrolled in the 12th grade in a public school, charter school, private school, or home school during the current school year.
2. **LOCAL RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT:** In addition to meeting the School Grade Requirement, applicant must meet ONE of the following two Local Residency Requirements.
  - a. EITHER – The applicant’s school must be located in Waxahachie, Texas.
  - b. OR – The applicant must live in Ellis County, Texas; and must have maintained active membership in (or regularly attended) a church located within the geographical boundaries of the Waxahachie Independent School District, for the two-year period prior to the beginning of the current school year.

### **Application Submission and Deadline**

The Scholarship Application and Character References must be mailed to the following address and postmarked **no later than Friday, March 24, 2023:**

**Moral Courage Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 585**  
**Waxahachie, Texas 75168**

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Basis for Selection of Scholarship Recipients

The **MISSION** of the Moral Courage Foundation is to inspire young people to live up to the moral standards of the Bible and to encourage young people to courageously promote those values in our society.

The Moral Courage Foundation will carry out its mission by providing college scholarships to high school graduates who have demonstrated biblical moral courage in their lives as defined below.

### 1. MORALITY

Morality begins with a respect for God and for His will as expressed in the inspired writings of the Bible. The concept of morality has its roots in the Ten Commandments and is further developed through the writings of the New Testament.

The Moral Courage Foundation is seeking young people who are committed to the pursuit of biblical morality in their personal lives. Specifically, we are looking for young people whose lives are characterized by the following traits and behaviors:

- Compassion
- Kindness
- Forgiveness
- Service to others
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Freedom from addictive behaviors
- Sexual Purity (a commitment to the ideal that sexual relations are appropriate only in a monogamous marriage relationship between one man and one woman)
- A demonstrated relationship with God, including active involvement in a local church

For further elaboration on morality, you are encouraged to consult the following Bible passages: Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-23.

### 2. COURAGE

In addition to a personal pursuit of biblical morality, it is also important to take an active role in promoting biblical morality at the societal level. The Moral Courage Foundation is seeking young people who are willing to take a public stand for biblical morality even in the face of opposition, rejection, or persecution.

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION 1: Personal Information	
Student's Full Name:	Male   Female   (circle one)
Mailing Address:	
City, State, ZIP:	
<b><i>Please be sure to include contact information in case we need to contact you about your application.</i></b>	
Phone Numbers: Home	Student's Cell
Email:	
Birth Date (month/day/year):	
SECTION 2: Parents/Guardians	
Please list Parents'/Guardians' names as they should appear in Moral Courage Foundation publicity.	
Parent/Guardian 1 (Name):	Parent/Guardian 2 (Name):
Mailing Address(es) (if different from applicant's):	
City, State, ZIP:	
Phone Numbers (Home and Cell):	
SECTION 3: Church Membership	
Church you regularly attend:	
Church's location (city):	
Minister:	Youth Minister:
SECTION 4: School Enrollment	
School you attend (full name):	
School District:	
Principal:	

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## SECTION 5: Essays

You will be required to submit two one-page essays with your scholarship application.

- Each essay may be either handwritten or typed.
- Use a separate sheet of paper for each essay.
- Do not exceed one page for each essay.
- Put your name and the essay title at the top of each essay.

### ESSAY #1: “About Me”

Write a one-page essay telling us about yourself. Below are some guidelines for things to include in this essay, in no particular order. The purpose of this essay is to give the Scholarship Selection Committee a good understanding of who you are and what makes you unique, especially as a person of character, integrity, and moral courage.

Things to include in this essay:

- Your spiritual journey, your relationship with God, and how these have impacted your life and the lives of those around you.
- Your church involvement during your high school years, and why it is important to you to be actively involved in church.
- Your involvement in community service during your high school years, and why it is important to you to serve your local community.
- Talk about how you have made a positive difference in your family, your peer group(s), your community, and/or your high school.
- What are your plans for the future? Specifically: Where do you plan to further your education after high school? What degree plan or area of study will you pursue, and why? What career path do you plan to follow, and why?

### ESSAY #2: “What Moral Courage Means to Me”

Please carefully and thoroughly read the “Basis for Selection of Scholarship Recipients” on page 2 of this application packet, *including the Bible passages* listed there. It is important to understand that true moral courage is defined by the Bible’s standards of morality, and that those standards are often in conflict with society’s standards of morality and with what is considered politically correct at the moment. We are looking for young people who courageously stand for *biblical* morality. With those thoughts in mind, write a one-page essay describing what the concept of “moral courage” means to you. Why is moral courage important, and how has it played a role in your life? Give some examples of situations in which you have acted on moral courage, especially any situations in which you have exhibited moral courage by taking a stand *for* biblical morals, or by taking a stand *against* the immoral beliefs and practices in the world around you.

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## SECTION 6: Character References

You will be required to have three different people submit character references on your behalf as part of the scholarship application process. These should be people who know you well enough to comment on your moral integrity.

The Character Reference Requests (CRRs) that you will need to provide to these three people are included in this scholarship packet and may also be downloaded and printed from the Moral Courage Foundation website ([www.moralcouragefoundation.org](http://www.moralcouragefoundation.org)). Each CRR is slightly different, so be sure you give the right CRR to the right person. Before distributing the CRRs, write your name in the “Applicant’s Name” box on each CRR.

All character references must be mailed directly to the Moral Courage Foundation by the person providing the character reference and must be postmarked by the postmark deadline specified in the CRR.

Here are some guidelines to consider when selecting people to submit character references on your behalf. (NOTE: It is your responsibility to provide each of these people with the appropriate CRR.)

### **Character Reference 1: MINISTER OR CHURCH LEADER**

This should be your preacher, pastor, youth minister, an elder, or some other recognized leader in the church you regularly attend.

### **Character Reference 2: HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OR ADMINISTRATOR**

This should be one of your high school teachers, a principal, your school counselor, or some other faculty or staff member at your high school.

### **Character Reference 3: COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADER OR OTHER ADULT**

This should be someone who has supervised you in your community service activities or is well acquainted with your community service efforts, or any other adult who knows you well enough to comment on your moral integrity. NOTE: This cannot be your parent or guardian, and cannot be the same person as Character Reference 1 or Character Reference 2.

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant's Name:

## SECTION 7: Applicant Photo

**PLEASE INCLUDE A PHOTOGRAPH OF YOURSELF WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.** This should be a good quality "headshot" type photo, and will not be returned. By signing the application below, you grant the Moral Courage Foundation permission to use your submitted photo and your senior yearbook portrait for purposes of promoting the Moral Courage Foundation and its events.

## SECTION 8: Submission Address and Deadline

Please mail your completed **scholarship application**, your **two essays**, and **your photo** to the following address. Make sure to include enough postage.

**Moral Courage Foundation  
P.O. Box 585  
Waxahachie, Texas 75168**

**POSTMARK DEADLINE:** Your application must be POSTMARKED **no later than Friday, March 24, 2023.**

## SECTION 9: Authorization and Signatures

**APPLICANT:** I, the undersigned scholarship applicant, do hereby submit my name for consideration as the recipient of a Moral Courage Scholarship awarded by the Moral Courage Foundation ("the Foundation"). I affirm that all information provided on this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I affirm that I have read the Foundation's definitions of Morality and Courage (see General Information), that I agree with these definitions, and that I am committed to living by these standards. If selected as a scholarship recipient, I understand that the Foundation will expect me to continue to live by these standards as a condition of receiving scholarship funds. I hereby waive my right to review any information submitted to the Foundation as part of the application process by any third party, including those who submit character references on my behalf. I hereby agree to the use by the Foundation of my senior yearbook portrait, the photograph(s) submitted with my application, and excerpts from my application and character references, in the promotion of the Foundation's programs and events.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN:** I, the undersigned parent or guardian of scholarship applicant, do hereby affirm that I have reviewed this completed scholarship application, and that all information provided on this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If applicant is a minor, I hereby give permission for use of applicant's photograph(s) and excerpted quotes as specified above.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**

[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

**CHARACTER REFERENCE REQUEST**  
**Minister or Church Leader Referral**

Applicant's Name:
-------------------

**Dear Minister or Church Leader:** The above-named student has applied for a Moral Courage Scholarship to be awarded by the Moral Courage Foundation and has selected you to provide the Foundation with a character reference on his or her behalf. Applicant has waived his or her right to review the information you provide to the Foundation in connection with this Character Reference Request. Please mail your character reference letter, along with this cover sheet, directly to the Foundation at the address, and by the deadline, listed below. All information you provide will be kept completely confidential.

Your Name:
------------

Church:
---------

Title/Role Within Church:
---------------------------

Mailing Address:
------------------

City, State, ZIP:
-------------------

Phone Number(s):
------------------

Email:
--------

**Submission Address and Deadline**

Please mail your character reference letter, along with this cover sheet, directly to the following address. It must be postmarked **no later than Friday, March 24, 2023** in order to be considered by the Scholarship Selection Committee. **THANK YOU!**

**Moral Courage Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 585**  
**Waxahachie, Texas 75168**





**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**

[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

**CHARACTER REFERENCE REQUEST**  
**Minister or Church Leader Referral**

Please write a character reference letter addressed to the Moral Courage Foundation, providing us with your thoughts about the scholarship applicant. Listed below are some questions that will give you an idea of the kind of information we are hoping you can provide. You don't have to answer every question, but the more information you can provide, the more helpful it will be in our evaluation of this student as a potential recipient of a Moral Courage Scholarship.

***THANK YOU!***

(Please include the applicant's name in your character reference letter.)

How long have you known the applicant, and how well do you know him or her?

From your personal observations of the applicant, what would you say are the applicant's primary spiritual gifts or strengths? Can you share any specific examples from the applicant's life that have led you to this conclusion?

How serious or consistent would you say the applicant is in his or her commitment to the Lord, and why?

How active has the applicant been in your church throughout his or her high school years? Please give some specific examples of his or her involvement.

Are you aware of any occasions on which the applicant has taken a bold stand for his or her biblical moral convictions?

If you were on the Scholarship Selection Committee, what would make this applicant stand out in your mind as being worthy of receiving a Moral Courage Scholarship?

Are you aware of any character flaws or integrity issues that would cause you to have reservations about recommending this applicant to receive a Moral Courage Scholarship?



**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**

[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

**CHARACTER REFERENCE REQUEST**  
**High School Teacher, Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Referral**

Applicant's Name:

**Dear High School Teacher, Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Member:** The above-named student has applied for a Moral Courage Scholarship to be awarded by the Moral Courage Foundation and has selected you to provide the Foundation with a character reference on his or her behalf. Applicant has waived his or her right to review the information you provide to the Foundation in connection with this Character Reference Request. Please mail your character reference letter, along with this cover sheet, directly to the Foundation at the address, and by the deadline, listed below. All information you provide will be kept completely confidential.

Your Name:

School:

Title/Role Within School:

Mailing Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Phone Number(s):

Email:

**Submission Address and Deadline**

Please mail your character reference letter, along with this cover sheet, directly to the following address. It must be postmarked **no later than Friday, March 24, 2023** in order to be considered by the Scholarship Selection Committee. **THANK YOU!**

**Moral Courage Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 585**  
**Waxahachie, Texas 75168**

High School Teacher, Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Referral

Page 1 of 2



**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**

[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

**CHARACTER REFERENCE REQUEST**  
**High School Teacher, Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Referral**

Please write a character reference letter addressed to the Moral Courage Foundation, providing us with your thoughts about the scholarship applicant. Listed below are some questions that will give you an idea of the kind of information we are hoping you can provide. You don't have to answer every question, but the more information you can provide, the more helpful it will be in our evaluation of this student as a potential recipient of a Moral Courage Scholarship.

***THANK YOU!***

(Please include the applicant's name in your character reference letter.)

How long have you known the applicant, and how well do you know him or her?

What is the nature of your school-based interactions with the applicant (e.g. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teacher, High School Principal, Fellowship of Christian Athletes Sponsor, etc.)?

From your personal observations of the applicant, what would you say are the applicant's greatest character strengths? Can you share any specific examples from the applicant's life that have led you to this conclusion?

How serious or consistent would you say the applicant is in his or her commitment to living a moral life, and why?

What are some specific ways in which the applicant's commitment to biblical moral principles has made a positive impact in the lives of other students?

Are you aware of any occasions on which the applicant has taken a bold stand for his or her biblical moral convictions?

If you were on the Scholarship Selection Committee, what would make this applicant stand out in your mind as being worthy of receiving a Moral Courage Scholarship?

Are you aware of any character flaws or integrity issues that would cause you to have reservations about recommending this applicant to receive a Moral Courage Scholarship?



**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**

www.MoralCourageFoundation.org

**CHARACTER REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**Community Service Leader or Other Adult Referral**

Applicant's Name:

The above-named student has applied for a Moral Courage Scholarship to be awarded by the Moral Courage Foundation and has selected you to provide the Foundation with a character reference on his or her behalf. Applicant has waived his or her right to review the information you provide to the Foundation in connection with this Character Reference Request. Please mail your character reference letter, along with this cover sheet, directly to the Foundation at the address, and by the deadline, listed below. All information you provide will be kept completely confidential.

NOTE: Applicant has selected you to provide a referral either because you have supervised applicant in his or her community service activities (or are well acquainted with his or her community service efforts), OR because you are an adult who knows applicant well enough to comment on his or her moral integrity.

Your Name:

Community Service Organization (if applicable):

Title/Role Within Organization (if applicable):

Mailing Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Phone Number(s):

Email:

**Submission Address and Deadline**

Please mail your character reference letter, along with this cover sheet, directly to the following address. It must be postmarked **no later than Friday, March 24, 2023** in order to be considered by the Scholarship Selection Committee. **THANK YOU!**

**Moral Courage Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 585**  
**Waxahachie, Texas 75168**



**2023 MORAL COURAGE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Sponsored by the Moral Courage Foundation**

[www.MoralCourageFoundation.org](http://www.MoralCourageFoundation.org)

**CHARACTER REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**Community Service Leader or Other Adult Referral**

Please write a character reference letter addressed to the Moral Courage Foundation, providing us with your thoughts about the scholarship applicant. Listed below are some questions that will give you an idea of the kind of information we are hoping you can provide. You don't have to answer every question, but the more information you can provide, the more helpful it will be in our evaluation of this student as a potential recipient of a Moral Courage Scholarship.

***THANK YOU!***

(Please include the applicant's name in your character reference letter.)

How long have you known the applicant, and how well do you know him or her?

*If you have supervised applicant in community service activities, please comment on the specifics of those activities and your evaluation of applicant's commitment to and faithful execution of those activities.*

From your personal observations of the applicant, what would you say are the applicant's greatest character strengths? Can you share any specific examples from the applicant's life that have led you to this conclusion?

How serious or consistent would you say the applicant is in his or her commitment to living a biblically moral life, and why?

What are some specific ways in which the applicant's commitment to biblical moral principles has made a positive impact in the lives of others?

Are you aware of any occasions on which the applicant has taken a bold stand for his or her biblical moral convictions?

If you were on the Scholarship Selection Committee, what would make this applicant stand out in your mind as being worthy of receiving a Moral Courage Scholarship?

Are you aware of any character flaws or integrity issues that would cause you to have reservations about recommending this applicant to receive a Moral Courage Scholarship?