



September 27, 2010

Robert Gates, Headmaster
East Rankin Academy
P. O. Box 509
Pelahatchie, MS 39145

Dear Mr. Gates:

Balancing academic requirements, a social life, family, and community involvement is challenging for a high school student. TEC recognizes local students' diligent efforts to contribute and excel in everything from school activities to volunteer work. In today's demanding world, it is important for everyone, including our students, to find the balance in life...to reach for the stars. The D. L. Fail Memorial Scholarship was established to recognize and reward those students who have balanced their young lives, excelling in academics and contributing to their community.

TEC's D. L. Fail Memorial Scholarship is based on a short essay that will be judged by a panel of scholarship committee members. Every high school student 18 years of age or younger, who is a TEC customer in the Bay Springs service area interested in continuing his or her education, is eligible for the scholarship. The Bay Springs service area customers are defined as those persons who have an active account and can be serviced by TEC. This includes customers who have any or all of the following services provided by TEC: High Speed Internet, TEC TV, TEC Security, phone, cable and long distance. The scholarship monies may be used for tuition at any four-year or two-year college or university of the student's choice, whether it is an in-state, out-of-state, public, or private institution.

The award of this scholarship does not guarantee admission to any particular school. Students must still meet all relevant academic or other qualifications for admission and graduation as determined by the educational institution of their choice. Any costs at a private or out-of-state school not covered by the scholarship will be the student's responsibility.

The D. L. Fail Memorial Scholarship is being offered through the Mississippi Affordable College Savings Program (MACS). The MACS plan covers tuition and related expenses. For the D. L. Fail Memorial Scholarship, two certificates will be awarded. The first place recipient will be awarded a \$3,000 scholarship, and the 2nd place recipient will be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship, both of which will only be applicable toward one year of enrollment.

How to apply:

- The essay topic is ***“What could we do to improve our hometown?”***
- Essays should be less than 500 type-written words and double-spaced.
- Cover page must include the student's name, birth date, address, contact phone number, and name of school.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or younger at the time the scholarship is awarded.
- The essay must be postmarked no later than **Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010**. Mail essay and cover page to the address below. Scholarship recipients will be notified in the latter part of November.
- Eligible students should include a verifiable, active TEC account number (High Speed Internet, TEC TV, TEC Security, phone, cable and long distance) and submit an original essay with cover page as described above to:

TEC

Attn: Teresa Odom

P. O. Box 409

Bay Springs, MS 39422

Or email essay before 11/17/10 to scholarship@tec.com.

We are grateful to our customers and are honored to have the opportunity to serve you. Sponsoring the D. L. Fail Scholarship is just one way we say “thank you” and give something back to the communities we serve.

Should you need further information, please feel free to call 1-800-898-2782.

Sincerely,



Teresa Odom
Commercial Manager