

# Joseph Ray Witherspoon El Centro College Student Scholarship

Ray Witherspoon was a valued, respected college administrator and life-long learner committed to student success and community building throughout his 28-year career at El Centro College. In 1968, Ray was hired as Director of Community Service at El Centro College in downtown Dallas, the flagship college of the Dallas County Community College District, which opened its doors in 1966. In that role, Ray helped shape what soon became known as Continuing Education at El Centro College. He subsequently served as Dean of Technical Occupations and Continuing Education and Dean of Physical and Social Sciences until he retired as Vice President of Instruction in August 1996. Ray consistently embraced student learning success and community building at the heart of his work and service in workforce training and technical/occupational and academic transfer education. Honoring his legacy of service to El Centro College and its students, the funds from this scholarship will be awarded annually to deserving students who personify his love of learning, dedicated work ethic, and sense of service to the local and world community.

<b>Amount of Award</b>	\$300 for fall semester and \$300 for spring semester
<b>Number of awards/yr</b>	Scholarship awarded to one student per academic year
<b>Source of Funds</b>	Privately Funded
<b>Designated College</b>	El Centro College
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Applicant must meet the Dallas County residential requirements for tuition.</li><li>*Applicant must have completed 12 semester hours in the DCCCD with a minimum 2.5 GPA.</li><li>*Applicant must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours in the DCCCD, 9 of which must be at El Centro College, in each of the two semesters for which the scholarship is awarded.</li></ul>
<b>Application Process</b>	<b>The student must submit a completed <i>DCCCD Foundation Scholarship Application</i> (available in the Financial Aid Office or online) along with one letter of recommendation from an El Centro College faculty member, addressing the applicant's academic achievement, academic potential, career goals, and community involvement or service learning. Each applicant must also provide written answers to three questions in one paragraph each. Written answers cannot exceed a total of one typed page, double-spaced with clear font no smaller than 10 point. The questions are: What assistance will this scholarship provide you? What are your college and career goals? In which community service or service learning activities have you been involved and why?</b>
<b>Selection Process</b>	The El Centro College Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Success or a committee appointed by him will review the application materials, writing sample, and faculty recommendation letter for each applicant and make the final selection of the scholarship recipient.
<b>Recipient Requirements</b>	During the fall semester, the scholarship recipient must maintain the required 12 credit hour load, the required 2.5 GPA, and attendance requirements in order to receive the spring semester portion of the scholarship funds. <b>The recipient must verify eligibility for the spring semester with the Financial Aid Office after fall semester grades are posted and the student has registered for the spring semester.</b>
<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Complete application materials must be submitted to the El Centro College Director of Student Financial Support and Services in the Financial Aid Office, room A034, by the second Friday in April.</b> All applicants will be advised by mail after the selection is made.

*For further information, contact the El Centro College Financial Aid Office  
in room A034 or at 214-860-2099*