



The Cowtown Challenge for Commitment

The Cowtown Challenge for Commitment is a scholarship program for high school students in the Fort Worth Independent School District promoting volunteerism for The Cowtown as well as participation in The Cowtown races.

Objective: It is the desire of the Meta Alice Keith Bratten Foundation to encourage young people to become actively involved in their community through volunteerism for and participation in charitable events. It is of critical importance that the volunteering students show a commitment over a series of years, not just a one-time effort, to gain a better understanding of the challenges of staging and executing a successful community event which touches the lives of thousands of individuals. Active participation in one of The Cowtown races each year to provide a comprehensive awareness, from a race participant's perspective, of the value added by their volunteerism.

Volunteering in an established, structured institution like The Cowtown exposes the student to management, decision-making and financial skills as well as collaboration and cooperation to complete a goal.

Requirements:

- High school GPA of at least 3.0
- Enrolled in a FWISD high school
- A minimum of 24 volunteer hours for The Cowtown during the academic year
- Participation in and completion of the Cowtown 5K, 10K or Half Marathon in February (standard entry fee for students) or The Cowtown CALF Run in October
- A minimum of 3 consecutive years of participation including the student's senior year
- Attend a Student/Parent Information Meeting in January at the Cowtown Office

The Cowtown Challenge for Commitment was initiated in the 2013-2014 academic year with the first scholarships to be awarded in May 2015. Students meeting the requirements will be evaluated based

on their response to the statement below, which must be submitted as a double-spaced, type written, one-page response during their Senior year.

The Cowtown Challenge has been created to encourage high school students to establish a lifelong habit of exercise and community support by not simply volunteering, but also actively participating in a Cowtown event over consecutive years. Considering your experiences in both areas of The Cowtown—volunteering and participation--describe the impacts you believe your efforts will have, both on the community of participants and in your own personal development.

Information for application:

To process your application, freshmen or sophomore students will need to provide the following information **no later than January 30, 2019:**

- Completed application form
- Letter of reference and contact information from at least one of your teachers
- Letter of support from the volunteer chairman or staff at the Cowtown
- Most recent report card noting GPA
- Copy of SAT or ACT test scores (senior year only)

Scholarship Funds Available

The Cowtown office will maintain records of consecutive annual participation requirements. NOTE: any disruption in a consecutive multi-year commitment will disqualify the student from a scholarship award. Ninth graders will earn a \$4,000 college scholarship upon successfully completing 4 years in the Cowtown Challenge for Commitment.

How it works

Beginning in the 9th grade or 10th grade, students must meet requirements each academic year to continue to be qualified for a scholarship award at graduation. In other words, a 9th grader who volunteers, runs and fulfills other obligations is eligible for a \$4,000 scholarship upon graduation in 2018. If a student does not meet requirements during one year, the student becomes ineligible for the scholarship award. Additional scholarship funds of up to \$1,000 will be considered for students who exceed volunteer requirements or advance to leadership roles in Cowtown's organization.

Academic Year		10 th grade	9 th grade
# years qualified		3	4
Scholarship amount		\$3,000	\$4,000