

BOB THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
POLICY

Douglas County Fair Foundation
Est. February 2013
Revised November 2020
Revised January 2022

BACKGROUND

Bob Thomas was involved with the Douglas County Fair as a 4-H member and Fair Board Director for nearly 50 years. As a 4-H'er, Bob showed the Grand Champion Steer at the 1959 Douglas County Fair, the same year as the County's first 4-H Livestock Sale. He was also a member of the Douglas County Livestock Judging Team and was fortunate to be selected as a member of the Citizenship Washington Focus trip to Washington, D.C.

Bob later would serve as a 4-H Leader, DC Fair Assistant Superintendent for 6 years, and a Fair Board Director for 19 years from 1983-85 and 1997-2012. He served in several official roles while on the Fair Board: Secretary, Treasurer, Commercial Booths Director, Assistant General Manager, and Manager. His most cherished role though was as Chairman of the Rodeo Committee.

Just prior to his passing, Bob was instrumental in the creation of the Douglas County Fair Foundation. His primary vision for the Foundation was to create scholarship opportunities for youth participants at the Fair. Upon Bob's passing, his family requested that contributions be made to the Douglas County Fair Foundation in his memory and that a scholarship program be established to honor his wishes.

PURPOSE:

To encourage Douglas County youth to participate in the sport of rodeo at the annual Douglas County Fair, and to reward involvement and success by providing financial support for educational purposes to the highest achievers in their age category at each Fair.

ELIGIBILITY*:

Youth 19 and under that participate in ANY of the events at the Douglas County Hometown Rodeo – not to be limited to age specific events only.

Age Categories will be:

- 9 and under
- 10-13
- 14-19

If the 1st through 4th place winners of any event fall within the age categories, points shall be awarded as follows:

- 1st Place – 4 points
- 2nd Place – 3 points
- 3rd Place – 2 points
- 4th place – 1 point

In the case of a tie, points shall be awarded equally to each contestant involved in the tie. For example, tie for 1st place equals four (4) points for the tied position of 1st place in that event.

*The Douglas County Fair Board may make adjustments to age groups and events as it deems appropriate in which case this policy will be revised accordingly.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

The High Point winners within each age category, each year, shall be awarded a scholarship credit for the following amounts**:

9 & Under	\$200
10-13	\$300
14-19	\$500

If there is a tie for the scholarship credit, the dollar amount will be divided equally between each contestant involved in the tie so as not to exceed the \$1,000 allotted each year.

**The Douglas County Fair Foundation Treasurer shall be responsible for the tracking and accumulation of individual scholarship winnings and shall designate those funds as “restricted” to be available when funding requests are received from recipients.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS:

The Douglas County Fair Foundation shall hold all scholarships awarded until such time as the individual is registered to attend college or trade school. To receive funding, an individual must submit a written request to the Douglas County Fair Foundation in order to obtain his or her funds. In addition, proof of registration to a college institution or trade school must be submitted with the funding request. Upon verifying all information, a check shall be issued co-payable to both the individual and their chosen college or trade school.

Individuals must use the scholarship money before reaching the age of 21. In the event they are not claimed, all rights to the scholarship funds shall be forfeited and the money credited back to the Bob Thomas Memorial Scholarship fund to be used in future distributions. All scholarships shall be non-transferable.