

Community Service Awards Policy

Presented by the Awards Committee

February 15, 2022

The Rotary Club of the Bridgewaters, a service club representing the towns of Bridgewater, East Bridgewater and West Bridgewater, presents annual community service awards to graduating seniors who are residents of the three Bridgewaters and are graduating from the five public high schools, including the two regional vocational/technical high schools. The awards are named after distinguished Rotarians in each of the three towns.

The awards of \$ 1,000 are given to seniors who have shown exceptional commitment to community service and volunteerism, and who respond to the needs of the three communities, the region and globally.

Family members of the Rotary Club of the Bridgewaters are not eligible to be considered for the scholarships.

The prospective awardees from the towns of Bridgewater, East Bridgewater and West Bridgewater are asked to submit an essay that addresses:

1. The community- oriented activities in which they have been involved and the results of their work on these activities.
2. The reason they are interested in community service. The essay should be guided by the Rotary's Four Way Test – Is it the Truth? Is it Fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

The prospective awardees are also asked to present:

1. Their plans for attending an institution of higher learning after graduation.
2. A listing of school activities in which they have been involved.
3. A resume or supporting documents to supplement the application

A committee made up of members of the Rotary Club of the Bridgewaters will meet to examine the applications and choose the recipient from each school.

The awards will be announced at the annual scholarship recognition event in the three towns.

Recipients of the award are asked to attend a Rotary Club meeting to meet club members.

Recipients of the award are asked to present the first semester paid invoice to the scholarship committee.

Two \$ 1,000 awards will be given to selected graduates of Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School and Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational Technical High School. These two awards will be “Toolship” recognitions and will be given to graduating seniors who intend to pursue careers in areas not associated with the traditional college experience.

The “Toolship” awardees will be chosen by the guidance departments of the two schools. The award recipients from the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School will alternate – in 2022 the recipient will be chosen from a West Bridgewater resident and in 2023 the recipient will be chosen from an East Bridgewater resident. This alternation process will continue in a similar manner in the following years. The recipient from Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocational Technical High School will be chosen from among graduating seniors who reside in Bridgewater.

The “Toolship” awards will be announced at the annual scholarship recognition event at the two schools.

“Toolship” awardees will be asked to attend a Rotary meeting to meet the Club members

Recipients of the “Toolship” Awards are asked to present an invoice(s) of purchases to the scholarship committee before a check is issued to the graduate.