



ELROD·POPE
— ACCIDENT & INJURY —
ATTORNEYS

FOCUS FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP 2025



SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS:

- \$5,000.00 Scholarship to:
 - (A) a High School Senior Planning to Enroll in a Two or Four-Year College or University In the Fall of 2025,
- OR
- (B) a Current College Student Enrolled in a Two or Four-Year College or University for the Fall 2025 Semester.
- One applicant will be selected from South Carolina and one applicant will be selected from North Carolina for \$10,000.00 in total scholarship benefits

REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicant Must:
 - Reside in SC or NC.
 - Submit a 1,000-word essay on distracted driving.
 - Complete the Application Form
 - Provide Verification of acceptance or Enrollment for the Fall 2025 Semester.

DUE BY APRIL 28, 2025.

WINNER ANNOUNCED MAY 28, 2025



CONTACT US:  803-674-5944

 @elrodpopelawfirm  212 E Black St. Rock Hill, SC 29730

Essay Topic Description and Requirements

Driving is a responsibility that requires full attention. Unfortunately, distracted driving remains one of the leading causes of traffic accidents, injuries, and fatalities worldwide. For this scholarship, we invite students to write a 1,000-word essay addressing the following:

- **Understanding the Issue:** What are the most common causes of distracted driving, and why is it a growing problem in today's society?
- **Personal Responsibility:** Share your thoughts on the role individuals play in preventing distracted driving.
- **Innovative Solutions:** Propose practical strategies or policies that could help reduce distracted driving in your community, including any technological, educational, or legislative measures.
- **Community Impact:** Reflect on how reducing distracted driving could benefit your community and promote safer roads for everyone.
- Through your essay, we hope to spark awareness, encourage personal accountability, and inspire innovative ideas to make our roads safer. Let's work together to prevent distracted driving and save lives.

Please note, you must address all bullet points above and reach the word count of 1,000.

Instructions

All applications, transcripts, and essays **MUST** be mailed or emailed to kellan@elrodpope.com in a single package. Items sent separately or in any other form will not be accepted. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Scholarships are judged and awarded without regard to race, gender, color, religion, creed, national origin, disability or sexual orientation.

Eligibility and Criteria

Must be a current high school senior or student at a college or university. Must live in either North Carolina or South Carolina. Must be accepted for full time enrollment or planning to pursue a degree at an accredited college or university.

Deadline to Apply

All entries must be postmarked or timestamped on or before Monday, April 28, 2025. Elrod Pope Accident and Injury Attorneys are not responsible for any late, lost, or damaged entries.

How To Apply

Applications and supporting documents are also available on our website at www.elrodpope.com. Click on the scholarship page. Mail or email (kellan@elrodpope.com) your submissions including the application, essay, and transcript.

Mailed packets must be addressed to:
2025 Elrod Pope Focus Forward Scholarship
Attn: Kellan Young
212 E Black St
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Entering Your Application

Applicants must provide the following items in a single submission to qualify for consideration:

- Scholarship application (typed or neatly printed) and a recent photo of yourself.
- An 1,000 word essay that highlights all the required topics detailed below ☒☒
- Official or unofficial high school transcript (must include class rank and size). ☒☒

Submissions and Essays

Each year, thousands of young drivers between the ages of 15 and 22 are involved in serious motor vehicle crashes due to distracted driving. Whether it's texting, using social media, eating, or adjusting in-car entertainment, distractions take attention away from the road—often with devastating consequences. In the United States, distracted driving contributes to a significant number of injuries and fatalities, leading to billions of dollars in medical costs and lost productivity annually.

The Elrod Pope Accident and Injury Attorneys Focus Forward Scholarship aims to raise awareness and promote safer driving habits among young adults by encouraging creative and impactful peer-to-peer messaging. While the dangers of distracted driving remain constant, the ways in which we communicate and inspire change evolve over time. We challenge students to develop compelling and innovative ways to influence their peers to stay focused behind the wheel.

Selection of Winners

A panel of judges from the Elrod Pope Law Firm will select 2 winners for the Focus Forward Scholarship. The selection process will be based on several factors, including academic performance, involvement in school and community activities, and the quality of the essay. Essays will be evaluated on the student's ability to analyze, discuss, and effectively communicate the dangers of distracted driving. The judges' decisions are final. Scholarship recipients will be notified by phone, while applicants who are not selected will receive an email notification. Submissions will be disqualified if they contain inappropriate or offensive content, fail to include all required documentation, use copyrighted materials without proper permission, or lack proper citations for sourced content.

Number of Awards

Two winners will each receive a \$5,000 scholarship to the college/ university of their choice. Odds of winning a prize depends on the number of entries received.

Method of Scholarship Disbursement

Awards are paid in one installment. Scholarship checks are made out to both the student and the 4-year College or accredited institution.

Ownership of Scholarship Entries

All entries submitted to the Elrod Pope Accident and Injuries Attorneys in connection with the scholarship, along with all copyright, trademark and other proprietary rights associated therewith, become the property of the Elrod Pope Accident and Injuries Attorneys upon submission. Entry materials will not be returned to any entrant. By submitting an entry, you acknowledge that Elrod Pope Accident and Injuries Attorneys will own all rights to use, modify, reproduce, publish, perform, display, distribute and promote the artwork in perpetuity without compensation to you or any other person.

Use of Name, Likeness, Etc.

As a condition of receiving a scholarship, each winner as well as their parents or legal guardians will be required to consent to the use of their name, area of residence and school name. You must also consent to using your likeness (as in a photograph or on television) and prize information, without limitations, for promotional purposes without further payment.

Third-Party Intellectual Property

Please do not incorporate any third-party intellectual property in your submission, such as third-party trademarks, copyrights, or other third party proprietary or protected information or contents. All content and materials in your submission must be original to you. The use of any unauthorized third-party intellectual property in your submission will result in disqualifications of your application.

Release

By entering the contest, you and your parents or legal guardians release and agree to hold harmless the Elrod Pope Law Firm, and each of their partners or employees, from any liability whatsoever in connection with entering the contest, accepting any prize, or anything that may arise related to the contest, The Elrod Pope Law Firm reserves the right to use the concepts from entries submitted in the competition. All winning applicants will be required to sign releases and waivers of liability.

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PERSONAL INFORMATION All personal information provided will be kept strictly confidential. Please send a recent photo of yourself with this application. Please type or print clearly.

Name _____

Preferred Name (Nickname) _____

High School _____

County _____

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home phone # _____ Cell phone # _____

Email address _____ Gender: Male Female

Weighted GPA _____ Class rank: _____ of _____ total students

Intended Major _____

College/University you plan to attend this fall _____

If undecided, please list where you have applied or been accepted _____

List all other scholarships for which you have applied and the status of each (whether the scholarship has been granted).

Mother's Name (or Legal Guardian) _____ Father's Name (or Legal Guardian) _____

Home Address _____ Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone # _____ Home Phone # _____

Cell Phone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

Email Address _____ Email Address _____

Employer _____ Employer _____

Occupation _____ Occupation _____

Please mention any circumstances that may affect your ability to pay for college (i.e., unemployed parent).

Please explain if you and your family have been directly affected by distracted driving.

For any questions please contact Kellan Young via phone 803-368-9317 or email
kellan@elrodpope.com



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REFERRAL INFORMATION How did you learn about the Focus Forward Scholarship? Check all that apply.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES Clubs, sports, fine arts groups, volunteer work, scouting, jobs, internships, church involvement, special interests and hobbies.

ACTIVITY	# OF YEARS PARTICIPATED	HOURS PER WEEK CONTRIBUTED

HONOR PLEDGE

I certify that the information provided in this application packet is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that providing false information will result in the loss of any scholarship awarded. I also acknowledge that incomplete or late applications will not be considered. If selected as a scholarship recipient, I grant Elrod Pope Accident and Injury Attorneys permission to use my presentation, name, and likeness in promotional materials related to the scholarship program.

Signature of Applicant

Date

