



NAPA VALLEY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Division 65 of the California Retired Teachers Association

CRITERIA AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS
EDWARD W. SOLOMON SCHOLARSHIP and JUDITH B. CUTCOMB SCHOLARSHIP

PURPOSE: Two \$1000 Edward W. Solomon scholarships and one \$750 Judith B. Cutcomb Scholarships are offered by the Napa Valley Retired Teachers Association and administered through the Napa Valley Community Foundation. They are awarded in memory of two valley educators, Dr. Edward W. Solomon and Judith B. Cutcomb. The Solomon Scholarship is given to support current Napa County teachers/educators, and the Cutcomb Scholarship may support current St. Helena Unified School District teachers or a graduate of St. Helena High School studying to be an educator.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION: Through a written application and an interview, candidates will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Timely and full completion of the written application. Application (on reverse) must be received **by March 6, 2015**
2. Willingness to participate in an interview with the selection committee if your application successfully passes through the preliminary screening.
3. Strong rationale for requesting the scholarship (in your personal letter).
4. Long-range goals and time line for their achievement (in your personal letter).
5. Potential for the funds being used to maximize educational benefit to the students and staff of Napa Valley schools (in your personal letter).
6. Your perspective on the current field of education, including its challenges.
7. Effective personal and communication skills, both written and oral.
8. Candidates for both scholarships must meet the above 7 criteria **and** the additional criteria for the scholarship(s) requested:
 - **EDWARD W. SOLOMON SCHOLARSHIP** candidates must:
 - Wish to pursue upper division college/university coursework in order to strengthen their teacher preparation **and**
 - Demonstrate the **potential** for academic success by having been accepted in a college or university upper division or graduate level education program or course. Community college courses are acceptable only for current teachers who want/need to supplement their credential authorizations, and if the community college course is acceptable to the CTC Credentialing Office.
 - **JUDITH B. CUTCOMB SCHOLARSHIP** candidates must wish to pursue college/university coursework in order to strengthen their preparation. They must also be:
 - A teacher/educator employed by the St. Helena Unified School District
 - OR**
 - A graduate of St. Helena High School having completed the second year of college in the field of education, but not necessarily employed by the St. Helena Unified School District.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS:

- Candidates whose applications successfully pass through the preliminary screening will be invited to a personal interview to be held on **Friday, March 20** in Room **TBA** at the Napa Valley Unified School District Office. **Please indicate a time preference** from among the choices on the application.
- Scholarship awardees are invited to the **May 19, 2015 luncheon** of the Napa Valley Retired Teachers Association as their guests. The luncheon meeting is held at the Elk's Club in Napa.
- An awarded scholarship shall be **used by December 1st of the year awarded.**

Mail completed application form, a personal letter, two letters of recommendation and the answers to questions on the application form by Friday, March 6, 2015 to:

Napa Valley Retired Teachers Association
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 6286, Napa, CA 94581-1286

Need additional information? Call Carolyn Conkell (226-7720) or Barbara Pahre (224-7129)



NAPA VALLEY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
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2015 APPLICATIONS for
Two (2) \$1000 EDWARD W. SOLOMON SCHOLARSHIPS and
One (1) \$750 JUDITH B. CUTCOMB SCHOLARSHIP

Please review the scholarship criteria and complete this application with all attachments.
All applications must be received no later than March 6.
Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Date: _____

Current employer, including location: _____

Your current title, duties, assignment: _____

Applying for (please circle): Edward W. Solomon Judith B. Cutcomb

If a finalist, best interview time on March 20 (circle all options): 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00

Please attach all of the following to this sheet:

- A cover letter stating, at minimum:
 - o How you meet the specific criteria required by the Edward W. Solomon and/or Judith B. Cutcomb scholarship(s)?
 - o Why you believe you should receive a scholarship?
 - o Goals and timeline for reaching your goals
 - o Impact and use of funds (College you expect to attend, courses, nexus to your goals, impact on your students and/or staff)
 - o Financial need, if present. Other considerations being equal, financial need **may** be considered a factor. Please be prepared to describe any financial need circumstances in the face-to-face interview.
 (Please note: The selection committee is composed of retired teachers. In your letter, please briefly explain all acronyms or programs the readers may not be familiar with.)

A current letter of recommendation from your school administrator or employer

A second letter of recommendation from other school staff or member of the community

Please, double check to be sure all items are included and that the cover letter addresses, at minimum, the components listed in the first bullet above.

The complete application must be received by March 6, 2015.

Finalists will be notified of the time of their March 20 interview by March 18.

Notification of awards will be made by March 27.

Those awarded scholarships will be expected to share their progress with the NVRTA.

Awarded scholarships shall be **used by December 1st of the year awarded.**

Receipt of a scholarship is contingent upon verification of eligibility for and enrollment in appropriate courses. Scholarship funds will be mailed directly from the Napa Valley Community Foundation to the college or university.