German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh – 2016 Scholarship Overview

The Scholarship of the German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh (“GABC/Pittsburgh”), a division of the German American Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, and in partnership with the Pittsburgh Rotary Club Foundation (PRCF), is intended to benefit collegiate-level students from Western Pennsylvania who demonstrate academic excellence and strong interest in German-American business affairs and culture, and who plan to further their studies through study abroad at an accredited institution of higher learning in Germany.

Criteria for receiving this scholarship will include the following:
1. Quality of cover letter to Scholarship application
2. Reference letters
3. Academic scores
4. Service to school/community, including leadership
5. Demonstrated depth of interest in the field of study

This program will award a one-time scholarship of $2,500 to a candidate chosen by the GABC/Pittsburgh Scholarship Selection Committee. The funds will be donated by GABC/Pittsburgh, and administered by the Pittsburgh Rotary Club Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable foundation registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will consist of five voting members. This will include one representative from each of the GABC/Pittsburgh’s three founding firms – Ardex Americas, BKD, LLP and Cohen & Grigsby – as well as the sitting chair of the PRCF and the sitting president of the Rotary Club of Pittsburgh.


Criteria for Eligibility:
1. The applicant must be an alumnus of a high school in the 10-county Southwestern Pennsylvania Region (Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, Westmoreland); and
2. The applicant must be an undergraduate student already enrolled in German studies courses at the university/college level; and
3. The applicant must plan to study abroad in Germany and be able to provide a letter of acceptance or intent from either the host institution or the study abroad office from the home institution.

Application Requirements:
1. Complete the application form. All questions must be answered in full. This includes providing a full address, including zip code, and a current email address. The form must be signed by both the student and his/her parent/guardian.
2. High school and university / college transcripts.
3. A letter of acceptance from an accredited program in Germany. This may be provided by the home institution study abroad office or directly by the program in Germany.
4. Letters of recommendation from no less than two (but not more than four) of the following: teacher(s), school administrator(s), work supervisor(s), clergy or other person(s) of authority, provided, however, that one recommendation must be from a teacher or school administrator. Each letter must be in a sealed envelope with the signature of the applicant written across the seal.
5. 500-word, typed essay – “What do you aspire to achieve through your studies in Germany, and how do you hope to help enhance U.S.-German ties?”
6. Completed documents, including the application, transcripts and letters of recommendation should be sent to: German American Business Circle, c/o BKD, LLP, 375 North Shore Drive, Suite 501, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Questions may be directed to this email address: edaxbeck@bkd.com.
German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh – 2016 Scholarship Program

Transcript Transmittal Form

Applicant’s Name (First, Middle Initial, Last): ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

The student named above wishes to be considered for the German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh (the “GABC/Pittsburgh”) Scholarship, in partnership with the Pittsburgh Rotary Club Foundation (PRCF). Scholarships will be awarded for the academic year beginning in the Fall of the current school year. Strong preparation for college studies, evidenced by high school transcript, as well as university/college transcripts, is a key criterion for the award.

All materials must be received by the deadline date to assure consideration of this applicant.

Parent/Guardian Permission Statement (not needed if the student is 18 years of age or older)

I hereby give permission to release the transcript of grades for the applicant named above to the German American Business Circle Scholarship Selection Committee.

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Signature of Parent/Guardian: ……………………………………………………………. Date: ………………………

Transmittal Statement

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and actual copy of the transcript of the applicant named above.

Printed Name of School Official: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Title: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………. Date: ………………………

Signature of School Official: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Please send your application, transcripts and letter of recommendation to edaxbeck@bkd.com or via postal mail to:

German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh
c/o BKD, LLP
375 North Shore Drive, Suite 501
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh – 2016 Scholarship Program

Application Form (attach extra pages as appropriate)

Full Name: ...........................................................................................................................................

Postal Address: ........................................................................................................................................

Telephone (home or cell): ................................................. Email: ...........................................................

Parent/Guardian Names: ...........................................................................................................................

Graduation Year: .................................

Achievements, Awards, Extra-curricular Activities: ...........................................................................

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Service / Leadership Activities: ................................................................................................................

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University Name: ....................................................................................................................................

Current or Intended Major: .......................................................................................................................... 

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Planned accredited Institution of Higher Learning in Germany and Focus of Study in Germany: ................

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High School................................................................................................................................................

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Student Signature: .............................................................. Date: ..............................................................

Parent/Guardian Signature: .............................................................. Date: ..............................................................
German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh – 2016 Scholarship Program

Letter of Recommendation Request Form

Applicant’s Name (First, Middle Initial, Last): ...........................................................................................................

The individual named above is applying for a college scholarship that will be awarded to an individual who best displays academic credentials and serious interest in pursuing a deeper study of German business or culture in Germany. Scholarship will be awarded for the current academic year.

On a separate sheet, please provide a one-page typed letter of recommendation stating the reasons why you think the applicant should be awarded this Scholarship. Indicate how long you have known the applicant and in what capacity. Your comments regarding the attributes of the applicant will be useful to the Scholarship Evaluation Committee in making decisions, and will be kept strictly confidential.

Please send your application, transcripts and letter of recommendation to edaxbeck@bkd.com or via postal mail to:

German American Business Circle of Pittsburgh
c/o BKD, LLP
375 North Shore Drive, Suite 501
Pittsburgh, PA 15212