



SOUTHWEST TECH FOUNDATION

Scholarship Program

Building Tomorrow's
Workforce Today



In 2016 a donation from the Cedar City Rotary Club created the first scholarship program at Southwest Tech. To date, many students have received financial assistance that has changed lives and families for generations. We invite everyone to join the Cedar City Rotary Club and come together to increase the job skills in our community and fight to reduce the alarming poverty rate in our county and surrounding area.

David Westwood & Todd Boyer Rotary Club Presidents 2016 to 2018

An urgent request from the Southwest Tech College Foundation as simple as 1-2-7.

Are you aware that for every one (1) job that requires a post-graduate degree, there are two (2) jobs that require a bachelor's degree and seven (7) jobs that require a skilled certificate?

Did you know there is a shortage of skilled certificate workers in our four county region and our community needs your help.

Consider the following:

- Our total poverty rate is 18.4% in Iron County and the Inter-generational Poverty Rate is 5% for adults and an alarming 11% for children.
- The Iron County School District estimates 350-400 enrolled students are classified as homeless.
- Our current unemployment rate of 3.6% suggests we have many unskilled working poor in need of a skill based education.
- Skilled workers make more money than workers without a certificate.
- **60% of Southwest Tech certificate earners find employment in our four county region, 70% when you add surrounding counties to our four county region and over 80% in the state of Utah.**

Technical education and industry go hand in hand as a skilled workforce is required for the health and future growth of our local economy. Southwest Tech works with local industry leaders to understand and respond to current and future job demands to develop the necessary technical training.

Southwest Technical College offers 27 skilled certificates in 2018-19 at a tuition rate of \$1.95 per course hour with high school students attending tuition free. Many of our high school students enrolled in programs drop out when they graduate from high school because they cannot afford the tuition due to the poverty statistics listed above. **Southwest Tech is in a position to rapidly expand the number of students trained in our community.**

As members of the Southwest Technical College Foundation Board, we recognize that there is a **critical need for scholarship dollars** to train students for current and future employment within our region to help keep them in programs they have already started. Many of our students are non-traditional; juggling the needs of family, work, and bills while attending college. Although the majority of our students qualify for federal financial aid (Pell Grants, not loans), this assistance is not always enough. Many barriers exist that we need to identify and overcome.

We invite you to join the Cedar City Rotary Club, Rocky Mountain Power, the Leavitt Group, Dominion Energy and others in supporting Southwest Technical College's scholarship program. Your generosity will go beyond the simple numbers of 1-2-7, it will change lives. Your donation can support any certificate program or programs or be directed at categories like single moms, veterans or other groups or simply be based on need, merit or leadership. Thanks in advance for your contributions to the future of Iron County.

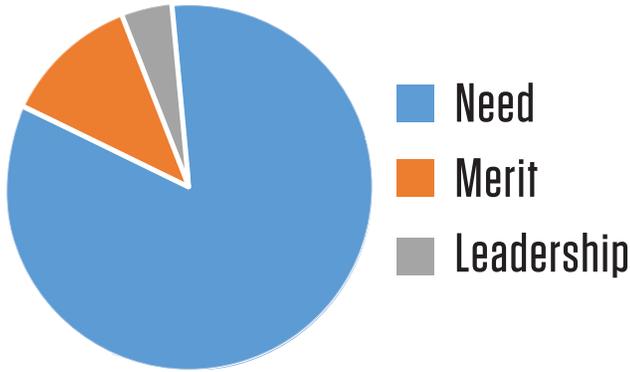
Southwest Tech College Foundation Board

Janet Calliham (Chairman), Liz Biller (Treasurer), Susan Durfee, Bruce Hughes, Neal Mason, James Mullenaux, Brennan Wood and Ree Zaphiropoulos



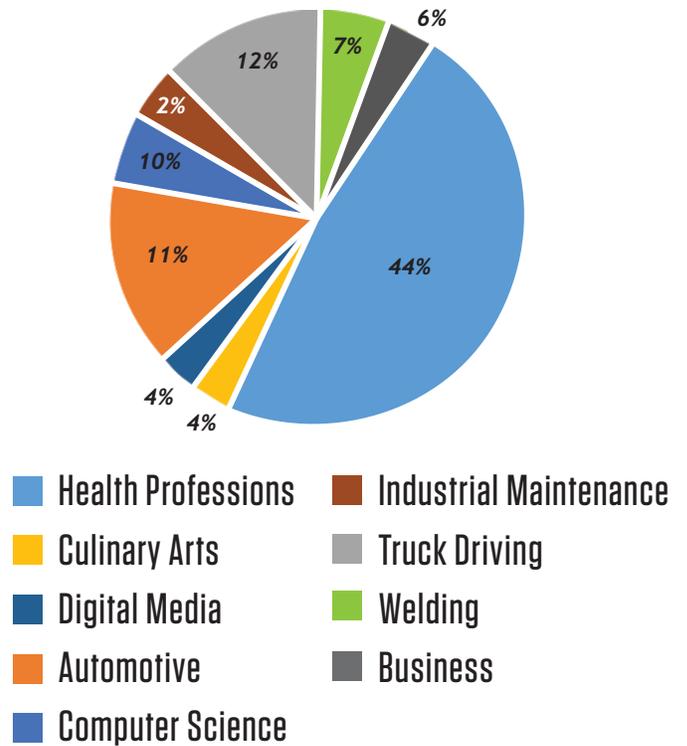
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Scholarship Type:

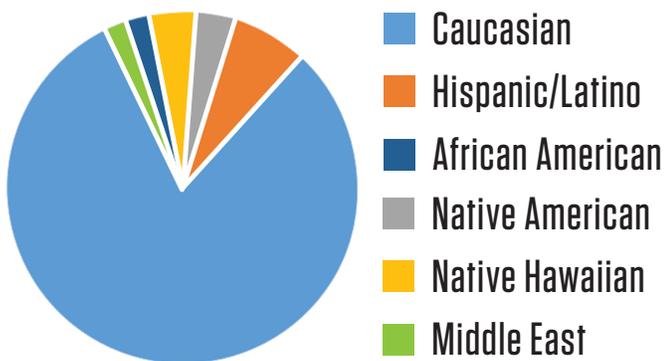


Scholarships	162
<i>Average Award</i>	<i>\$678.06</i>
<i>Need</i>	<i>144 89%</i>
<i>Merit</i>	<i>14 9%</i>
<i>Leadership</i>	<i>4 2%</i>

Scholarships by Program:



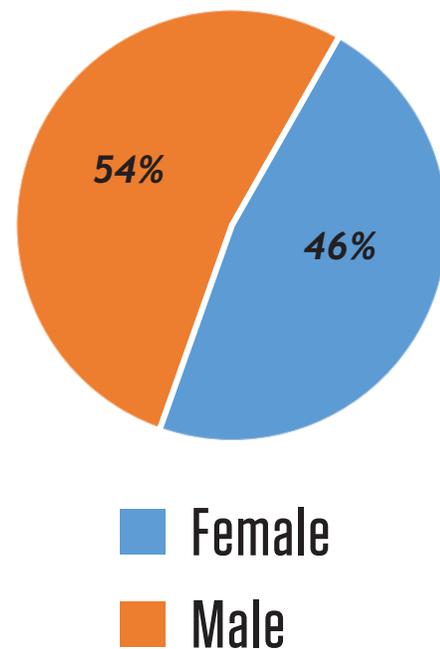
Scholarships by Ethnicity:



Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
<i>Caucasian</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>87%</i>
<i>Hispanic/Latino</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>6%</i>
<i>Native American</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2%</i>
<i>Native Hawaiian</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3%</i>
<i>African American</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1%</i>
<i>Middle Eastern</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1%</i>

Geographic Region	Count	Percentage
<i>Iron County</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>69%</i>
<i>Non-Iron County</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>31%</i>

Scholarships by Gender:



A Brief History of our Scholarship Program:

Throughout the history of our scholarship program, we've seen smaller, directed donations. For example, Southern Utah Trucking Association annually donates around \$4,000-5,000 per year - FOR PROFESSIONAL TRUCK DRIVING students; one year we were offered a \$1,250 grant from the Three Corners Women's Giving Circle for scholarships for women going into a Computer Science field; and several years ago, the local 222nd donated \$2,000 for vets associated with the 222nd to go to school.

While these efforts and donations are wonderful and appreciated, it wasn't until the Rotary Club stepped up, that we had any significant local means to assist our local students. While the numbers so far (dollar amounts and numbers of students served) may not seem significant to an outsider looking in, I can tell you that scholarships have been a deciding factor for many of our students. It has also made a significant difference in the confidence of the Southwest Tech Student Services team: if a student really has the desire to get training, and money is an issue, WE KNOW WE CAN HELP.

That confidence seems to be a real comfort to sometimes emotionally vulnerable prospective students.

JAMES MULLENAUX

Vice President of Student Services

PS - If you wish to support Southwest Tech with a donation, please phone or text Neal L. Smith at 435 327-1073.

Neal will meet with you confidentially and explain the needs of the college and how our scholarship program works.



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Dear Scholarship Donor,

For me, a technical education was the best way for me to develop skills in my chosen field. The hands on approach, practicing and learning best practices while allowing me to become the best automotive technician I could be. My instructors are top notch and guided my learning every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Bennett Olsen

Automotive Technician

Southwest Tech & UTECH Student of the Year



Dear Rotary Club,

To Cedar City Rotary Club,

I was very happy to learn that I was a recipient of the Southwest Technology scholarship. I am writing to thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education.

I have been waiting to further my education to better myself and my family, but have not been financially able to do so. I am a full time working mother who plans to pursue a medical clinical assistant career. After graduation, I will seek employment at one of our local medical facilities.

Sincerely,

Juana Elias

Medical Clinical Assistant

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Dear Rotary Club,

Thank you so much for accepting me for your scholarship! It has brought me much hope, especially as a start for this new year. I fully intend to finish this program the best I can. I am really glad I am able to continue school instead of dropping out and saving enough money to continue later down the road. So for this I am grateful. Please continue what you are doing, such programs like yours help students achieve the goals they otherwise would have trouble doing so. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Thank you,

Nathan Stevenson

Digital Media | Graphic Design



Dear Rotary Club,

My children have been beneficiaries from some of the contributions you make, such as Student of the Month and Dictionaries in the Classroom. Now, I'm grateful for the generous scholarship I am receiving which will make it possible to further my education at this later time in my life. Thank you for making it possible for me to attend Southwest Tech with my daughter. I'll make the most of this opportunity!

Sincerely,

Kaer Neumann

Digital Media | Web Design

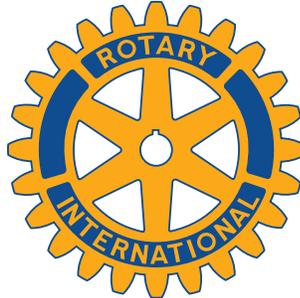
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