

The Endurance Riders of Alberta Youth Scholarship

The Vision

The Vision of The Endurance Riders of Alberta Youth Scholarship is to recognize and honor the dedication, consistency, horsemanship, promotion of the sport, and sportsmanship that Endurance Riders of Alberta's young riders demonstrate during their endurance career, on and off the trail.

Background of the Scholarship

In 2017 Jessica Yavis, after completing her diploma for Social Work, recognized the importance of post secondary education and wanted to ensure that youth had the opportunity to access this level of schooling. As an active member of The Endurance Riders of Alberta she put forth a request to start a scholarship program for youth involved in the sport of endurance within Alberta. This scholarship was created by a subcommittee based on the foundation Jessica displayed through her desire to create better futures for youth in the sport of endurance.

Jessica Yavis started riding at the age of eight on her pride and joy, Jahlad. Her mother believes that this horse, and her commitment, got her through her teen years. By twelve, she had received her one-thousand-mile buckle, and at thirteen, she had done her first one-hundred-mile ride. At fifteen, she was in Kentucky representing Canada as a Young Rider team member. Over the following three years in Kentucky, she won gold and silver with Team Canada, completing all three events on her own horse. She has written and published articles for the AERC magazine. She started and ran the club's Facebook page, sat on the board in various capacities, and volunteered at numerous rides and clinics. She has done this all while finishing high school and university. Jessica now holds a Social Work Degree and continues to focus her work on children and youth. One of her goals remain the development of this sport, and she is extremely active in the promotion of Endurance with youth. These ideals suggest some of the qualities that the scholarship embodies.

The Amount

The Endurance Riders of Alberta offer up \$1,000 to one recipient per year.

Requirements/Guidelines/Restrictions

- Deadline to apply is November 1st. The ERA Board of Directors will review the application. The recipient is announced at the AGM in January following the application deadline.
- Can be applied to any accredited program at any accredited technical school/specialized training/college/university.
- Open to Alberta residents only
- Open to ages 21 and under (as of January 1st)
- Must be an active member of The Endurance Riders of Alberta
- Minimum GPA 2.0
- Minimum of 10 volunteer hours with ERA required
- Minimum of 250 competitive miles with ERA required
- Volunteer hours in your community will be considered
- Past recipients are not eligible to reapply
- Providing false information on the application will forfeit your current application. You may then apply the following year if you are still eligible.

Scholarship Application

Name _____ ERA # _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____ Current Age _____

Birthdate _____ Grade Point Average (Post Secondary Only) _____

Average Grade of Last Completed Year of School (High School Only) _____

Amount of Competitive ERA Miles: _____

School & Program that you are enrolled in: _____

In 1,000 words total, please answer the following (typed on a separate piece of paper):

1. List the awards, mileage, and recognition you have received from ERA.
2. How does endurance riding make you a better citizen in your community?
3. List your volunteer experience at endurance rides. Be specific on the ride(s), date(s) and when you did to help, including trail maintenance.
4. Tell us about the partnership that you and your horse have!
5. What are your future plans and goals within the sport of endurance riding?

You must also include:

1. A copy of your latest grade transcript from your current school.
2. Letter of Acceptance or Confirmation of enrollment into the program you plan on applying the scholarship to.
3. One letter of recommendation from an adult familiar with your riding experience.
4. A second letter of recommendation from an adult non-family member familiar with your contributions to The Endurance Riders of Alberta and/or your community.

Please send completed applications to: erascholarship@gmail.com

Applications must be received by November 1st

Recipient will be announced at the AGM in January following entry deadline.

