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**Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Wildlife Leadership Awards 2019**

# *Torstenson Family Endowment Wildlife Leadership Award and*

*Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin Wildlife Leadership Award*

The mission of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage. Included in the hunting heritage part of this mission is supporting the education and development of professionals grounded in the North American Model of Wildlife Management.

The RMEF’s Wildlife Leadership Awards (WLA) scholarship program was established in 1991 to "recognize, encourage and promote leadership among future wildlife management professionals." The awards are presented to undergraduate wildlife students, and currently carry a $3,000 scholarship and a one-year membership to RMEF.

The awards include the *Torstenson Family Endowment WLA*, established in memory of Bob Torstenson *(1950-2002)* and the *Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin WLA,* established in memory of Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin *(1977-2001)*. Recipients of both awards are selected from the same pool of applicants.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

By the start of the 2019 fall quarter/semester, applicant must:

1) Be an undergraduate in a wildlife related natural resource program in a four-year college/university in the United States or Canada. It is acceptable to be transferring from a two-year college to a four-year institution.

2) Have at least a junior standing, as verified by applicant’s college/university.

3) Have at least one semester or two quarters remaining in degree program.

4) Be enrolled as a full-time student for the 2019 fall semester/quarter. This will be verified with awardee’s college/university in the fall before scholarship funds are distributed.

5) Have not previously received a RMEF Wildlife Leadership Award. Previous recipients are ineligible.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

Applications must be emailed no later than **March 1, 2019**.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

1. Complete the Scholarship Application Form.
* The application is a fillable document in Microsoft Word format. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.
* Applicant’s Release & Certification signature must be signed, not typed.
1. Have your Department Head / Chairperson complete and sign their University Verification page.
* Department signature must be signed, not typed.
1. Obtain two letters of recommendation from department faculty, employer, or volunteer supervisor.
* Encourage references to stress your leadership qualities.
* You may submit the letters with your application or your references may email them directly to awards@rmef.org.
1. Submit all parts of the application via email to awards@rmef.org.
* RMEF will e-mail confirmation of receipt.
* If you do not receive acknowledgement of your application receipt within two weeks, contact awards@rmef.org.
* Please do not mail a hard copy of your application.
1. For additional information:
* To learn more about RMEF, visit [www.rmef.org](http://www.rmef.org).
* For questions or to confirm receipt, email awards@rmef.org.

**APPLICATION QUICK CHECKLIST:**

* Application form, including seven essay questions.
* Release and Certification section signed by applicant.
* University Verification completed and signed by Department Head or Chairperson.
* Two letters of recommendation.
* Emailed by March 1, 2019.

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

Each application will be screened by the RMEF Scholarship Committee. Final decisions on the Torstenson Family Endowment WLA will be made by the Committee, and final decisions on the Gerald L. Turpin WLA will be made by the Turpin Family. Award recipients will be announced by June 15, with notifications e-mailed to both awardees and non-awardees. Scholarship funding will be awarded at the beginning of the fall semester/quarter upon receipt of RMEF’s required documentation.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION WILDLIFE LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2019**

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# *Torstenson Family Endowment Wildlife Leadership Award &*

***Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin Wildlife Leadership Award***

 **UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

 (This application is fillable. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NAME | Click here to enter text. | DATE | Click here to enter text. |
| ADDRESS WHILE IN SCHOOL | Click here to enter text. |
|  | Click here to enter text. |  | Click here to enter text. |  |  |
|  | CITY |  | STATE/PROVINCE |  | ZIP |
| TELEPHONE | Click here to enter text. |  | EMAIL | Click here to enter text. |
| PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS | Click here to enter text. |
|  | Click here to enter text. |  | Click here to enter text. |  |  |
|  | CITY |  | STATE/PROVINCE |  | ZIP |
| NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERISTY ATTENDING | Click here to enter text. |  | STATE/PROV. |  |
| DATES ATTENDED | Click here to enter text. | EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE |  |
| AREA OF STUDY OR MAJOR | Click here to enter text. |
| OTHER UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED | Click here to enter text. |  | DATES ATTENDED |  |
|  | Click here to enter text. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Please answer the following seven essay questions. The text boxes will expand as you type.**

**HOBBIES & LEISURE ACTIVITIES** (No points): In 100 words or less, detail your hobbies and leisure activities.

Click here to enter text.

**LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES** (25 points): In 250 words or less, describe your LEADERSHIP activities and accomplishments as they relate to wildlife or natural resources. Include organizations, dates, offices held, committee chairs, or other examples of leadership in wildlife and conservation organizations, professional associations, as well as community and university groups and activities.

Click here to enter text.

**EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE** (10 points): In 100 words or less, describe any work and volunteer experience you have had to date, including length of service. Please DO include experience that is not necessarily related to wildlife or natural resources.

Click here to enter text.

**ROLE OF HUNTING IN CONSERVATION** (35 points): In 300 words or less, describe the historical, present, and future role of hunting in conservation.

Click here to enter text.

**CRITICAL CONSERVATION ISSUES** (25 points): In 250 words or less, identify what you believe to be the most important conservation issues facing North America during the next ten years, and how they will impact future wildlife management activities.

Click here to enter text.

**CAREER GOALS** (5 points): In 100 words or less, write a statement indicating your career goals and how you plan to utilize your degree.

Click here to enter text.

**FINANCIAL NEED** (No points): In 100 words or less, describe your financial need, specifically how you are currently paying for your undergraduate degree (i.e. other scholarships, family assistance, jobs).

Click here to enter text.

**RELEASE AND CERTIFICATION**: I hereby give permission to use the information provided on this application for recognition purposes if selected. I also give permission to release information concerning my academic progress to sponsors of the scholarship I may receive. I understand that I must be registered as a full-time wildlife student next fall semester/quarter to be eligible to receive a RMEF scholarship. To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in the application is true and correct.

Student's Signature: Date:

 *Signature must be signed, not typed.*

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation’s Wildlife Leadership Awards 2019

**University Verification**

***When you have completed all parts of the Scholarship Application Form, please give it to your Department Head or Chairperson to complete the following information. This area of the application can be handwritten. You or your Department Head or Chairperson can submit your application materials to RMEF.***

The applicant, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , is expected to be a full-time student of

**junior** or **senior** standing by the start of the 2019 fall semester in the wildlife curriculum in the department of

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . His/her GPA on a 4.0 scale to date is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Name: Title:

University: Address:

City: State/Province: Zip:

Signature Date:

 *Signature must be signed, not typed.*

**E-mail application materials to:**

**awards@rmef.org**

RMEF will acknowledge receipt of your application via email. If you do not receive notification within two weeks of submittal, contact us at awards@rmef.org. Please also feel welcome to e-mail with any questions regarding the application process.