Stephen W. Pless Veterans Scholarship Fund

With a generous donation from Nancy Pless through a fund at The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, The Technical College System of Georgia Foundation will establish the Stephen W. Pless Veterans Scholarship Fund. The Pless Scholarship is for TCSG students who are eligible for veterans or survivors/dependents educational benefits and have at least a 2.5 GPA.

The Pless Scholarship will provide assistance for educational expenses that cannot be covered by other sources of funding. Students are expected to apply for and use Post 9/11 GI benefits, federal Pell grants, Georgia's Hope Grants, and the Georgia Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant (SIWDG) as primary sources of funding for their education. Funding will also be considered for emergency expenses, when non-payment of these expenses could require a student to withdraw from college. Payment for these expenses will follow standard State of Georgia policies, TCSG college policies, and the local TCSG college foundation guidelines. Scholarships will vary based on need and availability of funding. The scholarship is intended for one-time use and students are limited to one award per academic year. In extenuating circumstances, a second award may be made in a later academic year.

Eligibility Requirements:

In order to qualify for a scholarship provided from the Stephen W. Pless Veterans Scholarship Fund, a student must:

- **Be or have been** eligible for Veterans or Survivors/Dependents Educational benefits
  1. Priority One: Veterans who are still eligible for VA Educational benefits and who have been honorably discharged
  2. Priority Two: Veterans whose eligibility for Veterans Educational Benefits has expired and who have been honorably discharged.
  3. Priority Three: Survivors and dependents who are currently eligible for VA Educational Benefits

- **Enroll** as a full or part-time student at a Technical College System of Georgia college, taking a minimum 6 of credit hours

- **Have** a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5, or earn a 2.5 GPA in their first semester of attendance (if applying during their first semester)

- **Demonstrate** financial need that makes it difficult to pursue postsecondary education without scholarship support.

Application Process:
1. Complete and sign the application form.
2. Take the completed form to the Office of Institutional Advancement at your college. If you are unfamiliar with this office, ask someone in the Office of Financial Aid.
3. Respond promptly to any follow up correspondence from the Office of Institutional Advancement in order that funds can be disbursed quickly and efficiently.
Name__________________________________________

Address________________________________________

City_________________________________________ State _______ Zip Code ________________

Phone #_____________________________ E-mail______________________________

College _____________________________ Student ID Number ____________ Credit Hours________

Degree or Certificate Program ____________________________ Current GPA ____________

Military Affiliation:________________________________________

AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUESTED: $_______________

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EDUCATIONAL NEED (attach additional sheets if needed):

CURRENT SOURCES OF SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

☐ Post-9/11 GI Benefits   ☐ Federal Pell Grant   ☐ Hope/Zell Miller Grant   ☐ SIWDG

☐ Student Loans   ☐ Family Support   ☐ Salary/wages (self)   ☐ Other

If OTHER: identify source(s) and amount(s):

APPLICANT SIGNATURE:

• My signature below attests that the above information is correct and complete.
• My signature authorizes TCSG college foundation staff members to access my academic record, financial aid documentation, verify my military affiliation (via DD214, orders, CAC, etc.) and other institutional information required to support this request.
• My signature acknowledges that the TCSG college foundation may pay a third party on my behalf. If the funds are paid directly to me, I will be required to report the funds as income under IRS rules.

__________________________________________  ____________
Signature Date

COLLEGE FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:

My signature below attests that I have verified the student’s academic/military eligibility and financial aid status and approve this request as a financial emergency that could otherwise disrupt the student's academic progress.

__________________________________________  ____________
Name Title

__________________________________________  ____________
Signature Date