

# THE DON ZIMMERMAN GOLDEN APPLE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

2023-2024

The Don Zimmerman Golden Apple Scholarship awards a full scholarship for the Rockford University master's program to a teacher who has shown dedication to the craft of teaching and a passion for the profession. This scholarship will be awarded every other year. **The scholarship must be completed in two years.**

## ELIGIBILITY-(Must Meet All):

- Certified **Pre-K-12th grade** teacher who has completed a minimum of two years as a full-time teacher
- Currently teaching full-time in a public school or ISBE recognized non-public school in **Winnebago or Boone County**
- Employed in **good standing** within current school district
- Maintain a minimum **2.5 GPA**
- Must have applied for admittance to Rockford University's master's program **prior** to application submission.

## PROCESS:

- Complete application packet and submit to the Golden Apple Foundation office by **5 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, 2024.**
- Type or print clearly. If using a computer or word processor, you may use your own paper, but only use the amount of space and size of paper indicated on the application.
- Complete all four required components of the **Application Packet:**
  - A. Background Information**- Include most relevant information for this process.
  - B. Self-Reflective Essay**- Submit no more than three double-spaced, typed pages with no smaller than font size 10. *Do not* staple your application materials. ***Provide an in-depth answer, including specific illustrative examples to this question: Tell us about your commitment to teaching. How would a scholarship affect you, your students and your school?***  
Your essay allows our selection committee to understand the importance of the work you do as a teacher and how the scholarship could make a difference.
  - C. Letters of Recommendation**-Provide two and only two letters of recommendation. Be sure at least one is from your principal, who is familiar with your classroom teaching and can verify that you are a teacher in good standing. Each person sending a recommendation letter must include his/her name, address and relationship to the applicant.
  - D. Authorization**-Attest to authorization and eligibility criteria with signature.

## SEND COMPLETE APPLICATION TO:

Golden Apple Foundation  
5301 E. State St., Suite 114  
Rockford, IL 61108  
Email: [info@goldenappleofrockford.com](mailto:info@goldenappleofrockford.com)

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ School E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZATION:**

The thoughts and information expressed in this application are my own and I give my permission to Golden Apple Foundation to use the enclosed information in the selection process. I hereby confirm that I meet all the eligibility criteria as listed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

***For questions or more information, call the Golden Apple Foundation office at 779-210-2991.***

**Current Grade Level/Subjects:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Years at Present School:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Years Teaching Experience:** \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Prior Grade Levels/Subjects Taught</u>	<u>Years</u>

DEGREE	MAJOR	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	DATE DEGREE AWARDED

**Professional Recognition and Honors:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Development within the Past Five Years:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**School Related Activities/Responsibilities:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Community Involvement:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **AWARDS PROCESS:**

- Complete application packet, including background information, essay, and two letters of recommendation.
- Submit to the Golden Apple Foundation office by 5 p.m. June 5, 2024.
- **Selection committee reviews and evaluates applications based on:**
  - 1) Background Information
  - 2) In-depth insight provided in essay, utilizing **specific illustrative examples**
  - 3) Well-organized, well-written, grammatically correct essay
  - 4) Two supporting letters of recommendation
- Three semi-finalists selected for interviews by June 19, 2024
- Interviews conducted of finalists during June 21-26, 2024
- Scholarship recipient announced by June 28, 2024

## **SUBMISSION CHECKLIST**

- \_\_\_ **Scholarship application packet**
- \_\_\_ **Completed background information form**
- \_\_\_ **Self-reflective essay**
- \_\_\_ **Two letters of recommendation**
- \_\_\_ **Signed authorization**
- \_\_\_ **Documented application to Rockford University indicating MAT or M.Ed.**