THE ROBERT R. SOUTHARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Robert R. Southard Memorial Scholarship is available for a student with a physical disability who is of junior or senior status, has a minimum resident grade point average of 2.5, and can demonstrate university or community service.

APPLICATION

Name: ________________________________ Phone: ______________________________
(Please print)

Current Address: ____________________________ I.D. #: _________________________
(Street address)

__________________________ (City) ____________ (State) ____________ (Zip)

Major: ____________________________

Classification: _____ Jr. _____ Sr. GPA-Cumulative: __________

Write a short statement describing your background and interest in the scholarship. Remember to emphasize how you meet the eligibility criteria stated on the following page. You may use the following space provided or attach your statement to this form.

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Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

By signing this form, you give the selection committee permission to verify your GPA and academic standing with the Registration Office and financial need with the Financial Aids Office.

Submit by May 1 to: University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Services for Students with Disabilities
Centennial Hall 2106
Robert R. Southard Memorial Scholarship

AMOUNT: $250
AVAILABLE: Annually
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Student with a physical disability
- Minimum resident GPA of 2.5
- Junior or Senior status
- Demonstration of university or community service

Robert R. Southard was born May 13, 1934, in Marshfield and was raised in Rice Lake. Bob graduated from Rice Lake High School in the spring of 1952; that fall he enrolled at Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire. A swimming accident in the early summer of 1954 left Bob a quadriplegic with only bicep movement in the arms, but complete paralysis from the chest down.

In the summer of 1956 with the help of his twin brother, Jim, he went to summer session at the University of Wisconsin. In the fall he re-enrolled at Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire, the first wheelchair-confined student to ever attend the university. That fall he was elected to the Student Government. In the spring of 1957 he was elected President of the Student Government. Due to a remarkable memory and concentration, Bob was able to make the Dean’s Honor Roll, in spite of his physical limitations and inability to take notes in class. In the spring of 1958, he was named to “Who’s Who.” Upon graduation in 1958, Bob began his own insurance agency. At this time, he also became extremely active in helping individuals with disabilities. He was one of the charter board members which began and formed the Career Development Center in Eau Claire, an evaluation, training and employment shop for people with disabilities.

On January 3, 1965, at the age of 31, Bob passed away. In his ten years in a wheelchair, Bob’s accomplishments were more productive than a lifetime of most. He devoted these years to helping individuals with disabilities. He served as a tremendous inspiration to all and expressed that a handicap is a state of mind.

This scholarship fund has been established as a memorial to a man who devoted his adult life to helping others.

Submit Application To:
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Services for Students with Disabilities
Centennial Hall 2106

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION: May 1