I am happy to announce the Bernadine “Bernie” Ratliff Scholarship competition for the Fall 2015 semester. Two (2) institutional scholarships in the amount of $500.00 will be awarded to two EXCEL/SSS students for the current semester. These competitive scholarships, funded by Mineral Area College, recognize EXCEL/SSS students who are committed to academic excellence and persistence. Please read and follow the directions below carefully.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Returning student with a *minimum of 24 credit hours but no more than 60 credit hours*;
- Minimum *cumulative grade point average of 2.5*;
- Enrolled *full-time*;
- Completion of the FAFSA is required; if two applications are considered of equal merit, *priority will be given to the student with highest unmet need*;
- Student may not be on financial aid probation or suspension;
- Student must be working toward an AA, AAT, AGS, AS, or AAS Degree. *Students working toward a Certificate are not eligible*;
- Student must have had at least 12 in-person contacts with an EXCEL tutor or advisor between January 1st, 2015 and September 20th, 2015. These contacts must include a current (i.e., Fall 2015) Student Action Plan (SAP) on file in the EXCEL Office and attendance at one economic literacy workshop or advising session. (See Matt Sopko for additional information.);
- If two applicants are equally qualified and one is an Upward Bound or Educational Talent Search alumnus, preference will be given to the UB/ETS alumnus;
- *Previous recipients* of the EXCEL/SSS Scholarship are *not eligible to apply again*.

**SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT:** $500.00 (one-time award; non-renewable)

**SELECTION PROCESS:** EXCEL/SSS staff will review all applications for compliance with the eligibility requirements stated above. *Those applications which are complete* (i.e., include the completed application, a letter of recommendation from an instructor, and a one (1) page typewritten essay outlining educational goals) *and which meet the eligibility requirements* will be sent to the Financial Aid Office. The Director of Financial Aid and/or the Financial Aid Committee will make the final selection.

**APPLICATIONS:** Applications for this scholarship may be obtained in the EXCEL Office, Room C-3. A *letter of recommendation from an instructor and a one-page essay* outlining your educational goals are required. *Incomplete applications will not be considered.*

**DEADLINE:** Tuesday, September 29th, 2015. Submit completed application to the EXCEL Office.

Questions regarding this scholarship may be referred to the EXCEL/SSS Director.
FALL 2015 Bernadine “Bernie” Ratliff EXCEL/SSS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(Previous recipients of the EXCEL/SSS Scholarship are not eligible to apply)

◆ Please attach the following to your scholarship application:

  Letter of Recommendation from an Instructor
  1 Page Typewritten Essay Outlining Your Educational Goals

NAME:  _________________________________________  SSN:  _______________________________
(Last)                      (First)                      (M.I.)

ADDRESS:  __________________________________________
(Street Address)                              (City)                                           (State)          (Zip)

WHAT SCHOOL DISTRICT DO YOU RESIDE IN?  __________________________________________

DATE OF BIRTH:  ____________________________  GENDER:  ______ MALE  ______ FEMALE

Do you have a High School Diploma?  ____ YES  ____ NO

Do you have a GED Certificate?  ______ YES ______ NO

Did you participate in either Upward Bound or Educational Talent Search?  ____ YES  ____ NO

If you answered “YES” to the above question, check the program in which you participated:  ___ UB ___ ETS

What is your intended major course of study?  __________________________________________

What degree are you pursuing?  ______________________________________________

When do you expect to graduate from Mineral Area College?  __________________________
(Month)              (Year)

Do you plan to live on-campus at College Park?  ______ YES  ______ NO  ______ UNSURE

Are you interested in applying for a scholarship for housing at College Park?  ____ YES  ____ NO

School and/or community activities that you have participated in, including the dates of those activities:
____________________________________________________________
__________________________________________
Awards and honors received, including the dates received:

________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Special Circumstances (please indicate financial/medical/employment or other conditions that may exist in your family which may affect your ability to pay for college):

________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________

I certify that the information that I have provided on this application is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I am, by my signature, authorizing the release of my grade point average and other pertinent information regarding my educational plans to scholarship sponsors at the discretion of the Financial Aid Director for purposes of evaluating scholarship applicants.

DATE ___________________________ APPLICANT SIGNATURE ___________________________

◆ Please complete the entire application (both front and back), sign/date and return to the EXCEL/SSS Office at Mineral Area College, P. O. Box 1000, Park Hills, MO 63601. To be considered for the EXCEL/SSS Scholarship, the application and required documentation must be postmarked no later than September 29th, 2015. Students who are awarded scholarships will be notified by mail at the time that an award is made.

Mineral Area College complies with guidelines set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and need assistance with this or any portion of the registration/education process, notify us at the address or telephone number above as soon as possible. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs. Deaf or speech impaired callers please use Relay Missouri: 1-800-735-2966.

Mineral Area College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, age, religion, creed, or marital or parental status. For more information call the Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 and ADA Coordinator at (573) 431-4593 or U. S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights.