

Ventura County Democrats 2008 Jack O'Connell Scholarship

Description and Background

In 2007 the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee (VCDCC) officially recognized the Hon. Jack O'Connell's service to Ventura County and the state of California by awarding a scholarship (beginning in 2008) in the amount of \$1,000.00 in the field of Public Service or Education.

After growing up in Oxnard, graduating from Oxnard High School, receiving his B.A. degree from California State University Fullerton (CSUF) and his secondary teaching credential from CSU Long Beach, Jack returned to teach government classes at Oxnard High School. His political career began with his election to the Santa Barbara County School Board. Starting in 1982, Jack served six terms in the Assembly and was Speaker pro tem. He then was elected to two terms in the State Senate. He was elected as State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 2002 and overwhelmingly reelected in 2006. In 2007 he was inducted into the Ventura County Educators Hall of Fame. His lifetime commitment to education as a teacher, legislator, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction makes Jack the perfect person to be honored by our scholarship program.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Resident of Ventura County
- Registered (or registration-in-process) for Fall Semester 2008 at any public college or university in California
- Graduate of a Ventura County high school
- 3.0 GPA (transcript should be available on request)
- Registered Democrat or Intent to Register as a Democrat when eligible
- Career Goal: Public Education or Public Service
- The successful scholarship recipient will e-mail the Scholarship Committee a brief follow-up describing his/her college experience at the end of the first quarter/semester.

Application Procedure

Download the PDF on the **2008 JOC Scholarship** link at www.venturacountydemocrats.com. Mail the application with the two letters of recommendation and your essay to:

VCDCC Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 1587
Camarillo, CA 93011

Applications must be postmarked by **July 15, 2008**. (Please note that you may need to include extra postage.) If you need further information, please leave a message at 805-477-1777. Prospective recipients will be notified the first week of August and arrangements will be made for an interview. Following his or her selection, the winner will be honored at the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee Labor Day Picnic September 1, 2008.

Note: The following information is confidential and will only be used in scholarship selection.

General Information (Please Type or Print Legibly)

Name _____
Last First Middle

Address _____
Street City Zip

Best Phone Number to Reach You _____

E-mail address _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s), if under 18 _____

Address _____
Street City/State Zip

High School _____
Name City Year Graduated

Other School/College _____
Name City Year Graduated

GPA: High School _____ GPA: Other School _____

Name of College or University where you are enrolled to attend or registration-in-progress

Address _____
Street City Zip

Interests: School/Community _____

Awards/Commendations Received _____

Contributions Made to School/Community _____

Paid or volunteer work experience _____

Most influential person in your life (not including parents) and reason/s why _____

In addition to the application, please include the following:

Two Letters of Recommendation: Please ask two adults (one a former teacher or counselor) to write letters of recommendation. The letters should address your potential for a career in public service or as an educator. The letters should be included with the application and should be typed using size 12 font (or legibly handwritten) at least one-half page, but no longer than one page long.

Essay: Type an essay using size 12 font, at least one-half page, but no longer than one page long, detailing why you should receive this scholarship. Address your interest in education or public service as a career.

I certify that the information provided on this application is correct:

Applicant's signature/Date