



September 2018

Dear Rio Salado Student:

Each year Rio Salado names two of its students to the All-Arizona Academic Team. Being chosen for this team is a prestigious award for it comes with a scholarship of \$1,000, \$750, or \$500 **plus** a two-year full-time (or four-year part-time) tuition scholarship to one of Arizona's three state universities (Northern Arizona University, Arizona State University, or the University of Arizona). Additionally, if you are selected for the All-Arizona Team, you will have the opportunity to apply for more scholarships, including membership on the All-USA Community College Academic Team.

At this time, we are seeking qualified applicants for this award. The due date for the application is Monday, October 22, 2018 at **8:00 a.m.** Arizona time. Yes, this is 8:00 in the morning in case you need the time!

Please view the application criteria listed below to determine if you are a good candidate for this scholarship. The committee is seeking students who are engaged and making a difference in their college (Rio Salado) or communities. We plan to award students who have a 3.5 GPA or higher at the college level within the past five years plus have applications that exhibit some or all of the following characteristics:

- Participation in honors programs or honor society activities,
- Awards, honors, and recognition for academic achievement and/or leadership,
- Involvement with or service to the college and/or community.

Additionally, the focal point of the application is an essay that centers around one endeavor you have undertaken that utilized your college education to improve your school, community, society. The scholarship judges look for innovative, creative, original and lasting achievements or undertakings.

Application Criteria:

1. You are a current (Fall 2018) Rio Salado student, enrolled in a minimum of six credits, and will be at Rio through December 2018 or longer.
2. You have a cumulative **GPA of 3.5** or higher on a 4.0 scale for all **college-level** courses completed during the last five years (Fall 2013-present). For courses completed at schools outside of the Maricopa Community Colleges, you must submit transcripts (unofficial are accepted) of these non-Maricopa courses by the due date of this application. (For help calculating your GPA for the past five years, go to the following site: <http://www.back2college.com/gpa.htm>.)
3. You are on track to earn an associate or bachelor's degree, and you need to complete or be on track to complete a minimum of 36 semester (or 54 quarter) college-level credits hours by December 31, 2018, and 48 semester (or 72 quarter) college-level credits hours by August 31, 2019.
4. **If awarded this scholarship, you will strongly consider transferring to NAU, ASU, or U of A within the next 12-16 months** (Spring 2019, Fall 2019, or Spring 2020). Preference may be given to students who plan to transfer to one of these schools.
6. You have a record of involvement with school and/or community activities.



7. You have a college record free of suspension, probation, or other serious disciplinary action. If a convicted felon, you must have all conditions of sentencing, including probation, completed.
8. You meet the criteria of lawful presence in the U.S. according to the scholarship policies of Rio Salado and the three Arizona public universities (ASU, NAU, U of A).
9. You agree that information you submit in this application could be made public through the media.
10. You will allow Rio Salado personnel help you edit your national application if chosen for the All-Arizona Team.

If you meet the above criteria and want to apply for this award, **complete and submit the application below via email to StudentLife@RioSalado.edu by 8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 22, 2018.**

Please contact Inhye.Peterson@riosalado.edu or 480-517-8050 with any urgent questions regarding this application.



Rio Salado College All-Arizona Academic Team Application

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete the demographic and educational information below and then answer the remaining questions to the best of your ability.

This is a MS Word document so format it to make your answers fit neatly into the document. Then save your completed application and email it to StudentLife@riosalado.edu by **8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 22, 2018.**

Name:

Student ID#:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

Phone #:

1. Are you a current (Fall 2018) Rio Salado student, enrolled in a minimum of six credits, and will you be at Rio through the completion of the Fall 2018 semester?
2. Number of Credits You Are Taking This Semester:
3. ****Number of completed college-level (100 and above) credits:**
4. ****Cumulative GPA for all college-level classes from the past five years (since fall 2013). See <http://www.back2college.com/gpa.htm> to calculate GPA.**

[**The above credits & GPA are only for all regionally-accredited colleges you have attended.]

5. Approximate number of credits remaining before you transfer to a bachelor's institution:
6. Degree or program of study at Rio Salado:
7. Anticipated major for bachelor's degree:
8. Possible transfer school:
9. What is the highest degree overall that you hope to obtain?
10. Is your record free from any criminal conduct or, if a convicted felon, have you completed all terms and conditions of sentencing including probation?
11. Are you a U.S. citizen, do you have permanent or temporary residency, or are you attending college on an appropriate visa?
- 12. What are your **outside obligations**?**
 - a. List any **outside obligations** you have while attending college. Possible activities include employment, caring for family members, family responsibilities and chores, church/worship obligations, community organization obligations, or other non-volunteer obligations.

- b. How many hours per week do you spend engaged in these outside obligations?

I. Discussion questions:

Provide responses to the prompts below in paragraph format, using **250 words or less**. All responses are required. The questions **NOT** in bold are writing prompts meant to guide you.

- 1. Who you are is intricately linked to past experiences and who you've known. Thinking about your life and your experiences, explain what motivates you to succeed and who you are now.** (Consider: How has your family background affected the way you see the world? Who in your life has influenced you to succeed? How has your education contributed to who you are today? What background experiences led you to become who are you are now?)

- 2. What is your career goal?** (Consider: How will your education allow you to complete your career goal? What do you plan to do in your chosen field? Is your career goal realistic based on your current educational path? Why did you choose your career path and how will you get there?)

II. Awards

- 1. Do you have awards to include?** (Yes or no answer).

If the answer is yes, please see the list below of awards, scholarships, or special recognitions you may have received while at your community college. Select those that you know you have received. You may be required to show proof of the awards. Check with your college/program/PTK advisor if you have questions about the receipt of the awards.

___ PTK Competitive Edge Completion
List level of completion (1-5): _____

___ Previous PTK Scholarship Award. Please list:

___ Other scholarships. Please list:

___ College Dean's List

___ College President's List

___ College or Community Recognition (Volunteerism, service, etc.). Please list:

___ Peer Mentor/Tutoring Awards. Please list:

___ College Recognition (Academics or Leadership). Please list:

____ Community or National Recognition (Leadership). Please list:

____ Community or National Recognition (Academics). Please list:

____ Other awards. Please list:

III. Essay Section:

1. **Significant Endeavor Essay** (up to 500 words)

Describe your most significant endeavor since attending college in which you applied your academic or intellectual skills learned during your college experience to benefit your school, community or society. This endeavor may be in community/service learning, in research, in the arts, journalism, advocacy, public affairs, etc. Judges consider originality, initiative, degree of difficulty, results and benefit to society. Consider using measurable terms, steps taken and quantifying the outcome using impact data and numbers. Limit your essay to ONE specific endeavor.

2. **Special Circumstances** (up to 100 words)

If there are any special circumstances or information about yourself not elicited elsewhere in the application that you would like Phi Theta Kappa to be aware of, provide a brief description here.

IV. Volunteerism

1. **What has your current involvement in volunteerism taught you?** (Up to 250 words) (Consider: How has your engagement in campus/community activities helped develop your plans for the future? Do you plan to leverage your current volunteerism or service engagement against your career goals? Do you see yourself involved in your major field of study from a volunteerism standpoint or are your volunteer activities based on hobbies or other interests you have?)
2. Do you have campus/community activities to include? (yes or no question)
3. How many campus organizations are you involved in? (list a number)
4. How many leadership positions do you hold with these campus organizations? (list a number)
5. How many community organizations are you involved with? (list a number)

6. How many leadership positions do you hold with community organizations that are not affiliated with the college? (list a number)

7. **Volunteer Activities** – Rank the top three unpaid college activities in which you have participated since you enrolled in college. Do not include activities listed in the other sections (such as outside obligations, PTK activities, etc.). If activities are listed in this section, you must provide ALL information requested.

a. Organization/Activity:

Dates participated:

Hours per week:

Leadership position held? If yes, describe.

Phi Theta Kappa related?

Describe Participation, Activities, Duties and Impact (100 words or less):

b. Organization/Activity:

Dates participated:

Hours per week:

Leadership position held? If yes, describe.

Phi Theta Kappa related?

Describe Participation, Activities, Duties and Impact (100 words or less):

c. Organization/Activity:

Dates participated:

Hours per week:

Leadership position held? If yes, describe.

Phi Theta Kappa related?

Describe Participation, Activities, Duties and Impact (100 words or less):



Letter of Recommendation

If you are chosen as one of Rio Salado's two All-Arizona award winners, you will be required to obtain **one letter of recommendation** for this application. For now, we do not require the actual recommendation, but we ask that you list the name and accompanying information of the person whom you plan to have write the recommendation for you. This person cannot be related to you.

Guiding information: The Letter of Recommendation gives judges an expanded picture of the applicant's leadership accomplishments as well as civic involvement. The letter should speak to leadership and should showcase specific examples of how you have demonstrated leadership abilities, service involvement, and impact outside the classroom. This recommendation should specifically address the leadership example you discussed in your "significant endeavor" essay. Failure to provide a leadership example and commentary on the essay response may make your scholarship application less competitive. To facilitate this, provide your recommender with a copy of the essay. The letter of recommendation should be completed by a college faculty member, administrator, dean, or an employer or professional at an organization where you have volunteered.

Question: do you give us permission to contact your recommender before we make our final scholarship determinations?

Yes _____ No _____

- Name of recommender:
- Title:
- Employer:
- Relationship (faculty/instructor, a work supervisor, a community professional, a college employee, etc.):
- Phone number:
- Email address: