Northeast State Request for Non-Traditional Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS)

Read ALL information. If applicable, complete the following information and submit to:
Northeast State Financial Aid Office, 2425 Hwy 75  P.O. Box 246, Blountville, TN

Name: _______________________________  Student ID #: _________________

A non-traditional student **MUST** meet **ALL** of the following requirements to become eligible:

- Be a Tennessee resident (at least one year prior to application deadline)
- Be degree seeking (not enrolled in a certificate program)
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the deadline
- Be enrolled at an eligible postsecondary institution
- Be age 25 or older at initial enrollment, as an entering freshman in an eligible postsecondary institution (Northeast State) or have NOT been enrolled for at least two (2) years after last attending any postsecondary institution.
  - **Note:** As a non-traditional student, only those grades earned and credit hours attempted as a non-traditional student, after fulfilling the two-year hiatus, shall count toward the benchmark requirements.
- Have an adjusted gross income (AGI) no more than $36,000 per year
- Be continuously enrolled and maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 after 12, 24, 48 credit hours at initial certification; a GPA of 3.0 is required at each 24 hour increment above 48

Once a non-traditional student has been determined to be eligible, to continue receiving the HOPE Scholarship students shall meet the following HOPE Scholarship Renewal Criteria:

- Maintain a minimum TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 hour attempted hours. Maintain a minimum TELS GPA of 3.0 or 2.75 to 2.99 and term GPA of 3.0 after 72, 96 and 120 attempted hours.
  - Benchmark hours and TELS GPA will begin calculating all attempted hours the semester the student first receives the scholarship.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Maintain continuous enrollment
- NEVER drop a course without consulting the Financial Aid Office first about how it may impact your scholarship.
- Must have an AGI of $36,000 or less each year

The non-traditional student shall continue receiving the HOPE scholarship until the FIRST of the following terminating events:

- The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or
- Five (5) years have passed since the student enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution as a non-traditional student. (If student received HOPE prior, then when the sum of all years the student received HOPE equals five (5) years.) **OR** the student has attempted 120 semester hours – whichever occurs first.

The non-traditional HOPE Scholarship amount is up to $1000 per semester (fall, spring, summer). A non-traditional student is not eligible for the Aspire or General Assembly Merit Awards.

By signing below, I certify that to the best of my knowledge I meet all of the requirements listed above. I also acknowledge that if eligible for the Non-Traditional TELS program, that I understand the requirements for maintaining eligibility for subsequent terms.

Student Signature: _______________________________  Date: _________________