

G.R.I.T. Scholars Award(s)

Goals | Resilience | Integrity | Tenacity

- The G.R.I.T. Scholars Award recognizes those students graduating from FCHSI who demonstrate hard work, resolve, and strength of character.
- This scholarship puts high value on work ethic and character.
- Academics and need will be considered but not the sole factor in awarding.
- This scholarship is betting on the jockey that has put in the long hours, hard work, and forging their future through continuing their education.

You've been asked by a student to fill out an evaluation on them for this award. It is one of two personal evaluations (AKA recommendations) that they will submit along with their application and essay to the selection committee.

It is imperative that you:

- 1) fill out the additional comments area - this is KEY!
- 2) keep your comments short and concise (only in the box)
- 3) choose your words to truly represent what highlights this student's G.R.I.T
(give specific examples that help tell their story from your perspective)

We've had some feedback from the selection committee. They have asked us to stress the importance of the comment box to the evaluator. Really try to put specific examples in the comment box. You do not need to write a recommendation letter in that spot - use it to really hone in on one example to demonstrate the student's GRIT or even to focus on a single trait they are looking for like Tenacity or Integrity.

Both of these examples are good but one paints a more compelling picture of the candidate for the committee ~

XXX is a very hard working student. She is an outstanding student, very positive in class, and contributes to our class discussions. She is very caring and works well with others both peers and adults. XXX has always had a job outside of school and is not afraid of physical labor. After all, she works in a horse barn on a daily basis and she plans to someday manage her own barn boarding and training horses.

The G.R.I.T. scholarship would go a long way in helping XXX accomplish the dreams that she has set for herself - she is definitely one young woman that has the work ethic and tenacity to get there so I know this scholarship would mean a lot to her and her family.

XXX is hands down the most driven, focused, and hard working student I have known in my career. I have known her since elementary school when she (with her mom's assistance began caring for our youngest daughter). XXX was already raising guinea pigs and selling them to the local pet store to save money for horse riding lessons. Little did I know how strong this common little girl passion was for her...

Later XXX, was the first non-senior to ever create an action plan and present it to the administration to earn work release / on the job training as a junior. As a senior she took an online class through the University of Nebraska's technical agriculture class and a high school accounting class so she could see which direction to head career-wise. In the end, she made the mature decision that a business degree is probably the best way to afford the horses in her future and would allow her the most opportunities. I have no doubt she will be amazing at whatever she does – if the girl can muck stalls, carry feed, and break horses day after day no matter the weather she has the grit to accomplish anything.

This document is available on the school website so you can type your comments in the box & change the font size to fit your needs.

G.R.I.T. Scholars

Applicant Evaluation Form

- * Applicants must have this form completed by a high school teacher or school administrator.
- * Submit two completed evaluation forms with the rest of your application to Mrs. Hernandez by the deadline.

G.R.I.T Applicant: _____ Evaluator's Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant? _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

Mark the most appropriate response concerning the student:

How do you rate this applicant in terms of achieving previous or current goals?

No Basis	Below Avg	Average	Good (Above Avg)	Very Good	Excellent (Top 10%)	Outstanding (Top 5%)	One of the top encountered in my career
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How do you rate this applicant in terms of personal accomplishments.

No Basis	Below Avg	Average	Good (Above Avg)	Very Good	Excellent (Top 10%)	Outstanding (Top 5%)	One of the top encountered in my career
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How do you rate this applicant in terms of personal qualities and character.

No Basis	Below Avg	Average	Good (Above Avg)	Very Good	Excellent (Top 10%)	Outstanding (Top 5%)	One of the top encountered in my career
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How do you rate this applicant overall.

No Basis	Below Avg	Average	Good (Above Avg)	Very Good	Excellent (Top 10%)	Outstanding (Top 5%)	One of the top encountered in my career
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Please provide additional comments relevant to the applicant and their G.R.I.T. (Goals, Resilience, Integrity, and Tenacity) within the space provided below. **Comments are required.**

Evaluator's Signature: _____

Date: _____