



**AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB<sup>SM</sup>**

**Performance Events Department**

Date: January 8, 2020  
To: All AKC Clubs Licensed to Hold Performance Events  
From: AKC Performance Events Department  
Subject: **AKC Performance Events Scholarship Program**

The Performance Events Department is pleased to announce the creation of a \$10,000 scholarship fund for students that are active in AKC Performance Events who will be attending an institution of higher education during the 2020-2021 academic year.

**Definition of Performance Events:**

Field trials, hunting tests, lure coursing, earthdogs, coonhound events, herding, scent work, and any Parent Club administered performance event that has been recognized by the AKC as part of the AKC Performance Events Title Recognition Program.

**Definition of a Higher Education Institution:**

Vocational school, two-year junior college program, four-year college program, or advanced studies beyond a four-year degree.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

1. Applicants must be active in AKC Performance Events.
2. Applicants must be attending or planning to attend an institution of higher education during the 2020-2021 academic year.
3. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

**The Criteria for Awarding AKC Performance Events Scholarships Include:**

1. Applicant's degree of involvement in AKC Performance Events. Examples – handler, club member, assistance in hosting events, community involvement in promoting Performance Events.
2. Applicant's higher education goals. (vocational/college)
3. Applicant's financial need.
4. Applicant's GPA.
5. Extracurricular activities – school, community related, youth organizations (4-H, FFA, Scouts, etc.)

**How to Apply for an AKC Performance Events Scholarship:**

1. Complete the Application form which can be found online at: [www.akc.org/performance-scholarship](http://www.akc.org/performance-scholarship)
2. Submit a 250–500 word essay explaining how involvement in Performance Events has impacted your life.
3. Submit an official GPA transcript from current school.
4. Optional – documentation from club official describing applicant's involvement with club.
5. Deadline: All information must be received no later than March 6, 2020.

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A common concern across the sports is who will carry on these traditional Performance Events that we love and are so important to maintaining the “purpose” behind purpose-bred dogs. The Performance Events Scholarship Program is meant to assist those young people that have demonstrated their interest in these sports to achieve their higher education goals and encourage them to remain engaged or return to the sports when their lifestyle permits.

A little assistance at a critical time can have a lasting impact. The following is from a “Thank You” letter that the AKC recently received from Treyton (Jai) Diggs, DVM. Jai participates in Beagle field trials. His love for the sport and dogs resulted in a desire to become a veterinarian. He graduated from the Veterinary School at Tuskegee University in Alabama. He now is a practicing veterinarian in Louisiana.

“I am very grateful for AKC's commitment to aspiring veterinarians, the sport of Beagle field trialing, purebred dog health and research, and dog fanciers across the board. Due to AKC's commitment to purebred dogs and as a practicing veterinarian, I continue to compete, judge, train, and breed AKC dogs and serve as an AKC club officer. The AKC has laid a rich foundation through their dedication in advocating for purebred dogs. This commitment is reflected in the many programs that the AKC has implemented, including AKC scholarships, which was integral in my success as a veterinary student and continues to serve as a stimulus for my involvement and dedication to the AKC and Beagle field trials.”

Questions or clarifications can be emailed to [Juniors@akc.org](mailto:Juniors@akc.org).

To the future of our sports,



Caroline Murphy  
Director, Performance Events



Doug Ljungren  
Executive Vice President, Sports & Events