

Ada Thoma and Melva Owens Memorial Scholarship

Application Deadline

March 31

Application Process

Blind

Scholarship Amount

\$850

ABOUT THIS SCHOLARSHIP

Remembering Ada Thoma

Ada Thoma was a dedicated woman with a passion for teaching. Ms. Thoma was a teacher at Derby High School in the Business Education Department for 19 years. Upon retirement, Ms. Thoma established the Ada Thoma No-Interest Student Loan Program with Derby Community Education. These funds were transferred to the Derby Community Foundation when Derby Community Education dissolved.

Remembering Melva Owens

From her humble beginnings as a student in a one-room schoolhouse in central Oklahoma, Dr. Melva Owens became a nationally recognized expert on the topic of educational leadership. Dr. Owens's career was full of risk-taking and distinction. She served as principal of Derby High School for 2 years and as superintendent for Derby USD 260 for 6 years; she was just the fourth woman in Kansas to gain the rank of superintendent among 304 local school districts. Dr. Owens was the first woman to be elected President of the Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals and to be named Kansas Principal of the Year. Dr. Owens was a capable, caring, effective teacher and administrator with a rare combination of personal and professional skills.

About the Derby Community Foundation

The mission of the Derby Community Foundation is to enrich the quality of life in the Derby area by being a catalyst for connecting people and resources with community needs and initiatives.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Pursuing a career in education
- Graduating from USD 260
- High School GPA of 3.0 or an ACT score of 21

ITEMS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION

- PDF of most recent high school transcript, titled "[Your Name] Transcript".
- PDF of a letter of recommendation from a teacher, administrator, employer, or another adult (who is not a family member) explaining why he/she feels you are qualified to receive this scholarship. Title your document "[Your Name] Recommendation".

DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 31: Application deadline.
- April: The recipient will be notified via email by the end of April.
- Mid-May: Derby Community Foundation Scholarship Reception to honor the recipient.
- June 15: Recipient must sign a scholarship agreement and provide college information. Check your email! CommunityGiving will verify that you are enrolled as a full-time student at the college. (Full-time enrollment is typically 12-16 credit hours)
- June: Inform your college that you have received the scholarship.
- September 1: Full payment will arrive at your college unless otherwise notified.

Questions

Contact the Derby Community Foundation
316-788-9815 or derby@communitygiving.org