

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# 2025 ACET Paraprofessional Scholarship Rubric

## Eligibility Criterion:

- Work in a public school district or charter school
- Supports compensatory educational programs (such as tutoring, mentoring, pregnancy-related services, services to students experiencing homelessness or after-school academic assistance)
- Enrolled in a teacher education program (either enrolled in community college, university, or alternative certification program)

## Narrative Prompt (≤500 words):

*Express why you want to become a teacher, what you have learned from your involvement in a compensatory education program, and why you should receive this scholarship. The essay should show: Sincere desire to further education for continued self-growth, definite educational goals, clarity, neatness and expressiveness.*

## Sincere Desire to Become a Teacher (Motivation)

(20 Points)

| 0-9 Points                                                         | 10-14 Points                                   | 15-17 Points                                                                          | 18-20 Points                                                                                                                           | Total Score |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Does not clearly express desire or motivation to become a teacher. | Mentions wanting to teach, but lacks examples. | Mentions a desire to teach AND provides 1 relevant example of actions or experiences. | Explicitly mentions a strong passion for teaching AND provides at least 2 examples of actions or experiences that support this desire. |             |

## Lessons from Involvement in Compensatory Education Programs

(20 Points)

| 0-9 Points                                                                      | 10-14 Points                                                                             | 15-17 Points                                                     | 18-20 Points                                                                                                           | Total Score |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Does not mention compensatory education program involvement or lessons learned. | Mentions involvement in compensatory education but provides no specific lessons learned. | Describes 1 specific lesson or insight learned from the program. | Describes at least 2 specific lessons or insights learned from direct involvement in a compensatory education program. |             |

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Reasons for Receiving the Scholarship (Need & Merit)

(20 Points)

| 0-9 Points                                                                     | 10-14 Points                                                            | 15-17 Points                                                                                               | 18-20 Points                                                                                                                                            | Total Score |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Fails to provide reasons for receiving the scholarship or connection to goals. | Mentions needing the scholarship but does not provide specific reasons. | Provides 1 specific reason why they should receive the scholarship, with some connection to need or goals. | Provides 2 or more specific reasons why they should receive the scholarship, with clear connections to financial need, academic merit, or career goals. |             |

### Educational Goals (Definiteness of Purpose)

(15 Points)

| 0-4 Points                            | 5-9 Points                       | 10-12 Points                                                        | 13-15 Points                                                                    | Total Score |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| No clear educational goals mentioned. | Provides vague or unclear goals. | Mentions 1 clear educational goal, but lacks detail or specificity. | Clearly outlines at least 2 specific short-term or long-term educational goals. |             |

### Expressiveness & Clarity

(10 Points)

| 0-4 Points                                                 | 5-6 Points                                                   | 7-8 Points                                                                              | 9-10 Points                                                                                                | Total Score |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| No creativity or expressiveness; very flat and unengaging. | Writing is functional with minimal creativity or engagement. | Demonstrates some creativity or expressiveness (1 unique example or vivid description). | Demonstrates creativity by using unique examples, vivid descriptions, or engaging language (2+ instances). |             |

### Alignment with Self-Growth & Professional Development

(5 Points)

| 0 Points                                               | 1-2 Points                                                       | 3-4 Points                                                                     | 5 Points                                                                                         | Total Score |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| No mention of self-growth or professional development. | Little to no mention of self-growth or professional development. | Mentions self-growth or professional development, but lacks specific examples. | Clearly connects teaching to self-growth and career development, providing 2+ specific examples. |             |

**Comments:**