

Engineers News LOCAL 406 I.U.O.E.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LOCAL 406 AND SUBDIVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

ABILITY

PROGRESS

SAFETY

UNITY

UPDATES AND NEW INITIATIVES

The hardest part in writing my article is trying to compress a seemingly years' worth of information into a quarter's worth of time. Some of the things you read here will be a continuation from my previous articles to keep you up to date on the progress for those items. If there is any confusion, you can view the previous articles on our newly improved and updated website (www.iuoelocal406.org) for clarity or by calling the district offices and/or attending the district meetings. You will see updates listed below.

Contract Negotiations:

<u>CT Stevedoring</u> - Initiated the first round of meetings and looks to be challenging this time and will encompass a lot of dedicated time to complete.

<u>Turner Crane and Rigging</u> - Completed and ratified terms for a new 2-year agreement.

Hard Rock Casino, Biloxi, MS - In the final stages of signing up employees and getting a finished copy of the agreement for circulation.

You will see activities as they unfold in the pictures listed here in the newsletter as always.

Updates on Property:

The property at the training site in Loranger

By D. Jason Billings Business Manager/President

that we have been diligently seeking approval of a prohibited transaction from the Labor Board has come to an impasse. It is with deep regret that I made the decision to pull the permit



application and discontinue legal fees in this venture. I plan to postpone any pursuit of property for this purpose until after the sale of the Chef Highway property, as that is my central focus. Stirling Properties, LLC has been selected, under advisement of counsel, to represent us in the real estate market as a change had to be made from the previous contract.

MAP Program:

I went to a class at the ITEC called "Let's Get Uncomfortable". It showcased the magnitude of chemical dependency and mental instability on the jobsites for our industry. Statistics show that Operating Engineers are 3rd in crafts for dependency for alcohol and drugs and the stress levels that create mental issues. I certified there to be able to administer the lifesaving drugs to stop an overdose from Fentanyl. I will be seeking out avenues to get doses

SCHOLARSHIP

This edition of *Engineers News* contains an application for the 2024-2025 Peter Babin, Jr. Scholarship Fund. All members with children who have excelled scholastically during their senior year in high school should apply for the award.

DEDICATED TO PROMOTING THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFE WORK PRACTICES, CONTINUITY OF EMPLOYMENT, AND JOB SECURITY

ENGINEERS NEWS

(USPS 007-810)

Owned and Published Quarterly by LOCAL UNION No. 406 AND SUBDIVISIONS

3525 N. Causeway Blvd., Ste. 406, Metairie, LA 70002 - Phone: (504) 241-1311

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Periodicals Postage Paid at New Orleans, LA

POSTMASTER:

Send Address Changes To:

Engineers News, PO Box 7610, Metairie, LA 70010

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Craig Kaiser Kyle Leger Russell Maddie **David Perrault** Miguel Perrault

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SCHEDULED MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

OFFICES AND BUSINESS AGENTS

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STATEWIDE PIPELINE REPRESENTATIVE

WILLIAM YOUNG, Pipeline Representative 318.686.7745

STATEWIDE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

50713 Highway 445, Loranger, LA 70446

CRAIG KAISER, Apprenticeship Administrator 504.241.1311 3525 N. Causeway Blvd., Ste.406, Metairie, LA 70002 Robert Training Site: 985.542.4322

WEBSITE:

www.iuoelocal406.org

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1st Wednesday of every month at 6:00 PM

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

Thursday of the week of the 1st Wednesday of every month at 6:00 PM

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

Thursday of the week of the 4th Friday of the months of January, April, July and October at 6:00 PM

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday of the week of the 4th Friday of the months of January, April, July and October at 6:00 PM

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

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PENSIONERS

SELA District - NO Metro

Walter H. Berns. III Billy Hubbard, Jr.

SELA District - BR Metro

Edward P. Gore, Jr. Neal J. Morin Brian D. Rodrigue Harold A. Roussel Brian W. Sanders

North LA District

Melvin D. Brady Ralph E. Givens Monte L. Rhodes



DECEASED

SELA District - NO Metro 03/09/2024 Albert Andre, III

SELA District - BR Metro

Marucs Ballard 04/23/2024 William Efferson 04/10/2024 **Daniel Givens** 04/26/2024 Byron J. Lambert 04/22/2024 **Henry Martin** 05/05/2024 Earl C. McGuire 04/23/2024 Jeremiah Naguin 04/19/2024 Dennis Neames 04/21/2024 Bruce Summers 05/17/2024 Charles Taylor 05/21/2023

SWLA District

Lore Adams 04/16/2024 Bruce Gilbert 03/28/2024 Lester Goss 04/15/2024

North LA District

William Cronce 02/23/2024 Gary Davis, Jr. 04/23/2024 M.D. Fletcher, Jr. 05/03/2024 Stanley Groan 04/28/2024 Ted Sturdivant 05/07/2024 Herbert Williams 04/03/2024

Continued from page 1

of this medication through grant programs to be able to get it out to our membership and possibly teaching the proper way to administer it at our local union meetings as workshops. This medication isn't just for the drug user but for anyone who may accidentally encounter the drug through skin/eye absorption. I am looking to implement a Members Assistance Program (MAP), as other Unions do across the country. More information will come at the district meetings as I obtain it. We have been doing nothing in the past to combat this crisis as a Union so, my mission statement for the time being is simply "From Nothing to Something".

We are reapplying for our Mississippi Gaming Commission Licensing for Local 406 to be able to represent the Mississippi casino workers (Slot Techs). This must be applied for on an annual basis and at least 120 days in advance from the expiration date. We are continuously pursuing and meeting with contractors to come to terms with new Project Labor Agreements (PLA's) to provide more work opportunities for Operating Engineers and Apprentices. The new contracts and PLA's are reflecting the Health and Welfare increases in contribution and maintenance of benefits and the member ratified changes to the working assessments, together with the increase to the National Training Fund (NTF) which was adopted at the last IUOE General Convention as per the Constitution. If your current contract is coming up for renewal, any consideration for the Local training fund for an increase is encouraged and can be discussed in any of the district meetings.

There have been a few staff changes in the last quarter. I'd like to welcome Ms. Deirdre Rideaux to the Lake Charles office and Ms. Christina (Chris) Juneau to the Baton Rouge office after a stringent application process that saw them rise to the top of the selection from nearly 400 applications. I also want to recognize the committee that put in tireless hours, even after office hours, to ensure that the correct choices were made to best benefit the membership here. A special thanks goes out to Mrs. Adrian Guilliot for her years of service to Local 406 and I wish her well in her new endeavor.

Please remember that we are in Hurricane Season now. Don't forget your plans for a disaster by securing all documents, valuables, and pets, should you plan to evacuate. If you intend to stay and need a list of most needed items, you can visit the following website: www.getagameplan.org or by downloading the app LA GamePlan in the App Store, Google Play, or wherever you download apps for your mobile devices.

If you or someone you know needs assistance or simply need someone to talk please call 988 or visit the 988 Lifeline website at:

www.988lifeline.org.

Please have a great summer and enjoy the time with your families, whenever possible. Lastly, pray for me, as I pray for you.



ASM-**Mercedes Benz New Orleans** Superdome **Jobsite Visit**

Pictured from left to right: **Brennon Matherne**, **Brother Sammy Craig, Business Agent Miguel Perrault, Brother Kendal Taylor,** Sister Patricia Self, Sister Tabitha Massa, and Brother Ty Tetlow.

Weather heating up

By Kyle Leger Organizer/ Business Rep. Baton Rouge Office

It's that time of year again. Hot and humid! The



kids are out of school and the long awaited summer break has begun. I'm sure that most of you know that it is common for work to slow down a bit this time of year. For some of you this may be a great time to consider taking that overdue vacation that you have been putting off. Or maybe just take a little bit of "you" time and relax. Whatever you decide to do, we hope that you are doing it with safety in mind. We care about our members, their families, and their well being.

With the weather heating up, we know that we can expect some storms. It's a good idea to keep some bottled water and nonperishable food items set aside, along with flashlights and spare batteries. It may also be a good idea to have an evacuation plan if a major storm forms in the gulf. In preparation for storms, if you have a generator at home, be sure to check that it is working properly and that you have fuel for a couple days.

On the stationary side of business, we have begun signing up the maintenance workers and slot techs at the Hard Rock Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi. Prior to this, we had to overcome some obstacles and red tape concerning the Mississippi Gaming Commission. Our Business Manager, Jason Billings, made sure that everything was taken care of and done properly in accordance with the Mississippi Gaming Commission so that we could move forward without complications. As we get into July, we will begin forming a negotiating committee for contract renegotiation with the Gold Strike Casino in Tunica, Mississippi.

As some of you may know, we have a new class of apprentices starting up. Soon you may see some of these new workers out in the yard or on job sites. Say hello. Introduce yourself and make them feel welcomed. We were all new employees once. It is important that they receive good knowledge from those of you who are more seasoned and help them to know what to do and what not to do. Take them under your wing and teach them the things they need to know to perform their duties and become an outstanding operator in training.

For those who are working out in the heat, please look out for one another. Drink plenty of water and take breaks as needed. Heat stroke and heat exhaustion are real and not something that should be taken lightly. As you sweat, your body loses fluids as well as electrolytes. Both of which need to be re-

placed. Sugary, carbonated or highly caffeinated drinks are not good sources for hydration. Again please look out for one another. If you see one of your coworkers showing signs of fatigue or confusion, get them to a shaded or cool area, out of direct sunlight and have them sit and sip cool water. No job is worth someone getting injured or even worse.

I hope to see you all at upcoming meetings. Be safe out there and explore opportunities to give your children open air adventures in the great outdoors like camping or fishing. They may enjoy water parks or volunteering in service to others. It's great to be able to teach them useful skills that will carry them through life. Those types of adventures are character builders and help grow them into productive members of society. Always remember, we are training the next generation's workforce and leaders of our country.

Local 406 Stationary Engineers working at the Hale Boggs Federal Building in New Orleans



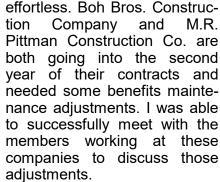
Pictured Left to Right: Owen Constanza, Cecile Morris, Nikko Danna, Bradley Jaufre, Courtney Peters, Gregory Mundy, Jr., Jean Lansou, William "Billy" Burtchaell, Romelle Williams, and John Polk, Jr. Members not pictured are: Khristi Mire, Benjamin Bowden, Walter Kaufman, and Tommy Janatik.

Benefits Maintenance Discussions

By Miguel Perrault Business Rep. New Orleans Metro Office

As we approach the peak of the summer, it gives me the

opportunity to engage with our members regarding contract negotiations, raise allocations, and any maintenance of benefits changes that may arise. Working along with Business Manager Jason Billings, Business Representatives Russell Maddie (Baton Rouge), David Hyatt (Lake Charles) and Organizer/ Business Representative Kyle Leger our negotiations with Turner Crane & Rigging were



I also had the opportunity to participate in the Apprenticeship Application and Interview Day at our training site in Robert, LA. Several of the new applicants caught the interest of the contractors that were participating in the interview process and may have the opportunity to hire on.

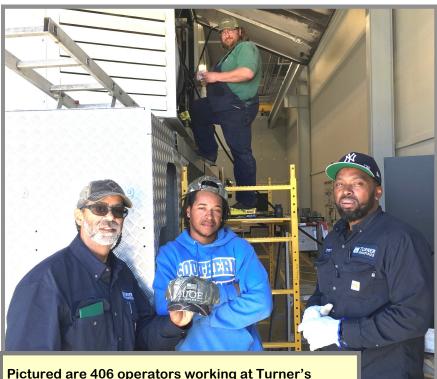
Currently, work is slow in the New Orleans Metro area,

which is common for this time of year, but it won't be long before we approach turnaround season, so be sure you are up-todate on all your credentials and call your district office to register on the out-of-work list if you are NOT currently working. Once you are registered on the out-ofwork list, remember, you must call in monthly to maintain your position on the list. Please try to attend the union meetings in your district so you can stay informed about upcoming work and be a part of discussions involving work-related issues.

Business Rep. Miguel Perrault on a jobsite visit at Boh Brothers in New Orleans East with Brother Larry Thonn Jr.







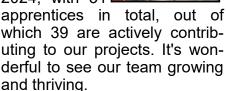
Pictured are 406 operators working at Turner's Hahnville yard from a recent jobsite visit by Business Rep. Miguel Perrault. From left to right, Brother Members Maxie Mann, Collin Johnson, Terrance Forest and Johnny Lemoine on the scaffold.

Apprenticeship Program growing and

By Craig Kaiser Apprenticeship Administrator

thriving

We're off to a great start in 2024, with 51



A big congratulations to Jack Leagans and Collin Johnson successfully graduating from our program. Despite the challenges posed bν COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, they persevered and completed their apprenticeship with flying colors. We're proud of their resilience and commitment.

We recently attended two career fairs to connect with potential apprentices and share opportunities within our industry. On April 3, 2024, we were at Smoothie King River Center in Baton Rouge, followed by a visit to the Livingston Parish Library in Denham Springs on May 14, 2024.

Throughout the quarter, we actively participated in various virtual and in-person meetings. Highlights include engagements with the Department of Labor on recordkeeping and elections, as well as participation in NCCCO committee meetings and Louisiana Workforce Development Board gatherings.

Exciting updates at our training site include the installation of new concrete pads and test weights for CCO testing. These improvements enhance our testing capabilities and ensure the highest standards of safety and accuracy.

We recently put up the P&H T-250 and John Deere 310SE on an online auction at Henderson. These were older pieces of equipment that were part of the discontinued government surplus program and no longer in use. The auction closed on May 6, 2024 and the crane went for \$1650 and the backhoe at \$4300.

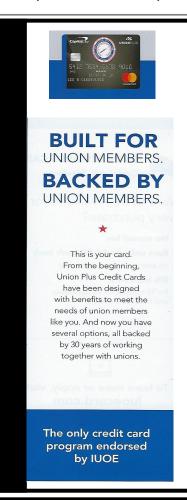
As a reminder, please ensure your dues are paid to current status when applying for classes at the ITEC center in Crosby. Additionally, meet any prerequisites listed for the courses you are interested in.

Our recent Apprenticeship Application, Interview, and Indenture Day saw the interest of right at 200 applicants. Next quarter, we will report on the final number taken in. We're thrilled to soon welcome them to our program.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming CCO Written Test Prep Classes on October 5, 2024 and October 12, 2024. Online proctored testing can be scheduled by calling the site at (985) 542-4322.

Apprentices working towards obtaining their CDLs are eligible for class hour credit. Congratulations to those who have achieved this milestone. For their dedication and hard work, two apprentices have received 185 class hours.

As we transition into the fall season. I wish all our brothers and sisters a safe and productive time ahead. Let's continue to prioritize safety and excellence in all that we do. Stay safe and take care.



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Working For Working Families

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



App RT Ler

Apprentices servicing Grove RT745 with Brother Leon Lemoine, Instructor.

Apprentice Lauren Mayeux familiarizing herself on the excavator.



Apprentice Tristen Depew installing a fuel filter.



Mainline work slows down

By William Young Business Rep. North LA District & Pipeline Business Rep.



Once again, time has passed quick-

ly, and now summer is here. Please be mindful of the rising temperatures and stay cool, if possible. If you see a friend or neighbor suffering from heat-related symptoms, please be your Brother's keeper and offer a helping hand or a cool drink, as it could be lifesaving.

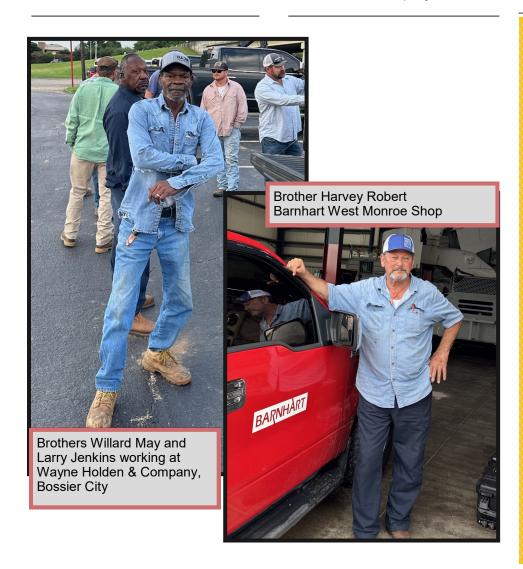
The work is slowing on the Mainline side of the pipeline; however, we have some small-

inch projects in the Bossier City area that have started. This work is being performed by one of our local contractors, Wayne Holden & Company.

The Michels' reseeding and punch list work has slowed to just a couple crews and will be over very soon, if not completed by the time of this article. We have enjoyed having them around for quite some time, but as we all know, all things come to an end. We are glad to have Mid America Energy Services back doing some drills. These drills are for an electrical project in the southern part of our state. These projects are utilizing operating engineers and feeding families from our state — our families, our Brothers and Sisters.

Please take a moment to look at all your certifications for their expiration dates and make sure everything is up to date, especially CDL, as they are very hard to get. Remember to check your medical cards as well. Don't forget all the training that is available at no cost at the International Training and Educational Center (ITEC) in Crosby, TX.

Lastly, the PIPELINE picnic will be held on Sept.14 in the pavilion at Madden Park in Simsboro, LA. Please bring a chair because seating may be limited.





9337 Hwy 80 Simsboro, LA 71275

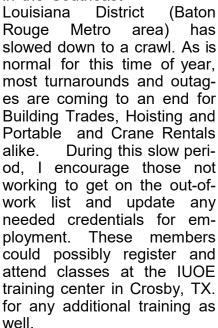
RSVP (318)686-7745

Rain or Shine Bring folding chairs! Seating is limited.

Slow Period in Baton Rouge

By Russell Maddie, Jr. Business Rep. Baton Rouge Office

At the time of this writing, work in the Southeast



Crane rentals are expected to be slow until the end of July or possibly mid-August due to job delays and will be rescheduled sometime later this year. With that being said, the account managers from Maxim, Deep South, and Turner Rentals have Crane agreed that this is the calm before the storm with plenty of work and work opportunities in the near future as we head into an extremely busy fall turnaround season.

As I write this article. Local 406 Business Manager Jason Billings, and the business representatives from around the state, have all been in conversation and contract negotiameetings for Turner tion Crane rentals. We are diligently trying to ratify another good solid contract for our Also. this members. later

week, Business Manager Jason Billings and I will meet with CT Stevedoring supervision and the members to begin contract negotiations with them as well.

Boh Bros. Construction Company is still making progress on the College Drive project in Baton Rouge and the Highway 19 bridge in Zachary. I have received a request for three more grade and GPS operators for the Comite Diversion Project and will possibly need more at later dates. With work being slow at the present time in the crane world, this might be another great opportunity for steady employment if you have the qualifications.

River Bend Station will have upcoming projects later this year with pre-outages starting in September or October and the actual outages starting at the beginning of January 2025. Approximately 15 or more Operating Engineers will be needed to fill these positions. Day & Zimmerman, Allied Power, Buquet & LeBlanc, and Sarens Nuclear are all putting in bids at the present time, so I should have more information for those awarded contractors in the near future.

In closing, I would like to wish Admin. Asst. Adrian Guillot farewell as she will be leaving Local 406 to seek another work opportunity elsewhere. The Local thanks you for the 14 years of commitment, dedication, and hard work you have given. You will be missed dearly by all. Best of luck and we wish you well.

Brother Frank Maddie, Jr. receiving his 50-year Membership Pin and Certificate at the Union Meeting held May 2, 2024.



No lag in Summertime work

By David Hyatt Business Representative

Work in the Southwest Louisiana district has been unu-



sually busy coming out of the Spring season. Usually everything gets quieter at this time of the year, as it is in between turnaround seasons here, but Maxim came in with an unexpected turnaround at Air Products which produced work for close to 20 Operating Engineers. The dog days of summer haven't been so quiet this time. We are seeing requests for Operators with rigging credentials now more than ever and are having to look for the manpower to fill the requests. If you don't have the rigging/signalman endorsement and have thought about getting it, now is the time. The crane industry has started to streamline back to where it's a very useful tool to have to make

us more employable and also improves your ability to get referred out for work, if you have it

The rest of the work in our area has slowed down a bit but should be kicking back off soon with the fall outages at Phillips 66 and Westlake Group with Deep South as they start ramping up in late August. There should be plenty of seats available, so make your plans now so that you are on the right list to be dispatched for the area that you want to work in.

If you haven't been into the Lake Charles office lately, we have a new face there. Please welcome Ms. Deirdre Rideaux. She agreed to come on board with us and help to put a unique touch on the business here, and she has been doing a fine job since day one. She brings a much-needed skill set to the office and has been a tremendous help to me and our members as we move forward.

Check your credentials. If there are things that you need to update to get ready for the fall season, now is the time. You don't want to be in the middle of a turnaround and have something expire that will cause you to have to miss work to update it. Check our local training schedule with the Apprenticeship by calling (985) 542-4322 or the International Training and Education Center in Crosby, Texas by visiting IUOE.org. These opportunities are provided to you as members at no cost to you to improve your skill set and make you more marketable while improving our ability to show the industry why UNION LABOR is a cut above the rest. We are better than the open shop because we have better training and can hone our skills to be master craftsmen where they cannot. Be the absolute best at what you do while making your Local a premier destination on the map for our industry.

Enjoy the summer and make memories that will last a lifetime in the hearts of your loved ones. I hope to see you all at your next district meeting, if not, I'll see you on the job somewhere.





Peter Babin, Jr. Scholarship Award Rules and Instructions

The International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 406 has established a scholarship program to be awarded to one child of Local 406 members annually. The college scholarship will be in the amount of \$1,000 and will continue for four years if grades are maintained. The following rules will apply:

1. ELIGIBILITY

- A. All sons and daughters of Local 406 members may a apply, provided the parent has been a 406 member in good standing for 5 years.
- B. Applicants must be high school students who have, or will be, graduated during the year they apply.
- C. Applicants must have a cumulative "B" average at the time of their application.
- D. Applicants must meet the academic requirements of an accredited college of their choice. Applications must be received by September 15, 2024 for 2024-2025 school year.

2. AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS

- The Local 406 Business Office will verify parental membership requirements.
- B. A committee composed of the Executive Officers will judge all applications and will select the winner.
- C. The election will be made on the basis of academic achievements, student activity and financial need.

3. PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP

- A. The scholarship is to be used at a college or university of your choice.
- B. Payment will be made directly to the college or university at which the student registers. If tuition is less than award, the difference will be given to recipient of award for books, supplies, living expenses, etc.
- C. The \$1,000 scholarship will continue for 4 years provided a "B" average is maintained.

4. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- A. Application form is a part of the **Engineers News,** on the I.U.O.E. Local 406 website and copies will also be available from any Local 406 office. When completed, the application shall be emailed to local406@iuoelocal406.org or mailed to IUOE Local 406, P.O. Box 7610, Metairie, LA 70010.
- B. A copy of the high school transcript should be sent with the application.
- C. A recent photograph of the applicant shall accompany the application.

*APPLICATION ON PAGE 12 *

2024-2025 LOCAL 406 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Student's Name	Date of Birth
Address	Sex
Phone Number	Email Address
State of Legal Residence Soc. Sec. No	Marital Status Single Married
Graduation Date High School Grade Point	Average Name of High School
Address of High School	
High School Activities and Honors (Use a separate sheet of	paper if necessary)
College or University you will attend	
Name of Parent who is a member of Local 406	Registration # of Parent
Parent's Address	Parent's Phone #
Other scholarship or financial aid for which you have qualit	fied for 2024-2025
Will you work during the summer of 2024? If yes, state the amount of your projected earnings.	YESNO \$
Will you work during the 2024-2025 school year? If yes, state the estimated school year income.	YESNO \$
Projected school budget for 2024-2025 A. Tuition fees, books B. Room and board C. Child care D. Clothing and laundry E. Transportation F. Medical and dental G. Other Total	
How much financial assistance will your parents give you fo	for 2024-2025?
Married? If so, will your spouse contribu	ute to your support? If so, how much \$
State why you feel you should receive a scholarship (use ad	dditional paper if you wish)
Signature	Date