



United States Rugby Foundation **Kevin Higgins College Scholarship Form**

DEADLINE: July 31, 2017

Background: The United States Rugby Foundation has established the Kevin Higgins College Scholarships in honor of one of the most prolific centers to ever pull on a USA jersey. Kevin Higgins represented the United States in 28 full internationals and 16 tests with the USA Sevens team in an international career that spanned from 1985-1991. He was a member of the USA team at the first two Rugby World Cups and also played at the prestigious Hong Kong Sevens tournament on three occasions.

The Kevin Higgins College Scholarships are designed to provide financial assistance to graduating high school seniors who are looking to continue their education and rugby in college or university. Each year, the USRF intends to award upwards of 10 Kevin Higgins College Scholarships to graduating high school students who will be joining the rugby program at their college or university. Each Kevin Higgins College Scholarship will be in the amount of \$1,000.

Criteria: The Kevin Higgins College Scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors. Applicants must have a minimum 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale, demonstrate financial need, plan on attending an accredited four-year college or university with a recognized rugby program, and plan on joining said rugby program in the Fall of 2017. The applicant's character, recommendations, community work, school extracurricular activity, rugby potential and personal statement will also be considered in the selection process. This scholarship may be used for tuition, books and fees.

- Number of Kevin Higgins Scholarships to be awarded: 1-10
- Amount of each Kevin Higgins Scholarship award: \$1,000

Checklist for the Kevin Higgins College Scholarships

- Completed Kevin Higgins College Scholarship Application
- One or more Letters of Recommendation
- List and explain community service, volunteer work and school extracurricular activity
- Rugby Resume
- Official transcript(s) in an official and sealed envelope
- Personal Statement
- Copy of 2016 taxes (Form 1040 – pages 1 & 2; Form 1040A – pages 1 & 2; Form 1040EZ – pages 1 & 2)

Requirements for Completing Your Application

If you do not follow instructions, your application will be considered incomplete and you will be ineligible to receive a scholarship

Section One: Applicant Information

- **Address:** All correspondence will go to the address you specify on your application. It is your responsibility to inform the United States Rugby Foundation of any changes to your address, phone number, email address, etc.
- **Social Security Number:** *This is required* – your application will not be processed without it (page 7).

Section Two: Financial Information – an important and REQUIRED part of the application process

- You must complete this section correctly and in its entirety or your application will be disqualified.
- To complete this section, you will need:
 - Your and/or your parents 2016 tax returns (Form 1040 – pages 1 & 2; Form 1040A – pages 1 & 2; Form 1040EZ – pages 1 & 2).
 - Information can be found on line 37 of 1040, line 21 of 1040A or line 4 of 1040EZ 2016 tax forms.
 - A copy of your and/or your parents' tax returns must be submitted with your application.
 - If you and/or your parents did not file 2016 tax returns, please check the appropriate box and indicate why.

Required Supplemental Information:

- Letters of Recommendation
 - Ask your high school or U19 coach to provide you with a letter of recommendation.
 - Letter must include the coach's name, school/team, address, phone number and email address where they can be reached.
 - In lieu of a letter from your coach, teachers, counselors, religious leaders and employers are all good choices as they can comment on your overall character, achievement and promise.
 - Letters must include the date, your full name and be signed by the person recommending you.
 - Please give the individuals writing your letters enough time. Have the person recommending you include in their letter their relationship to you, in what capacity they have known you, and for how long.
 - Include list of community service, volunteer work and school extracurricular activities.
- Rugby Resume
 - Please include a summary of your rugby career to date.
- Transcripts
 - You **MUST** show proof of units completed and GPA either by submitting a photocopy of your official high school transcripts or computer print-out of your academic record.
- Personal Statement
 - Your personal statement should be no longer than two pages, typed and double-spaced using 12-point type and one-inch margins.
 - Do not submit additional pages as they will not be considered.
 - Type the words "Personal Statement" at the top of each page, along with your first and last name.
 - Clearly address the following three questions in sequential order, typing each question as it appears below. Type your response directly under each question.
 1. *What role has the sport of rugby played in your life?*
 2. *What are your goals in rugby?*
 3. *What are your career goals (outside of rugby)?*

Checklist for the 2017 Kevin Higgins College Scholarship:

- Did you complete all sections of the Kevin Higgins College Scholarship Application?
- Did you enclose your Personal Statement (no more than two pages, typed and double-spaced) and address the three questions? (See page 2 for guidelines.)
- Did you enclose one or more letters of recommendation? (see page 2 for guidelines)
- Did you enclose your transcripts? (See page 2 for guidelines.)
- Did you include a copy of your 2016 tax form(s) used to complete your financial information (Form 1040 – pages 1 & 2; Form 1040A – pages 1 & 2; Form 1040EZ – pages 1 & 2)?
- Did both you and/or your parent(s) sign the Required Certifications and Release Sections and include your Social Security Number (page 7)?
- Did you have someone else review your application for accuracy and to make sure all the materials are included?
- Did you include list of community service, volunteer work and school extracurricular activity (i.e. band member, student council, honors society, other sports, etc.)?
- Did you make a copy of your Kevin Higgins College Scholarship Application for your files?

All application materials MUST come together in one envelope and be postmarked by the deadline – NO EXCEPTIONS!

WHERE DO YOU MAIL YOUR SCHOLASHIP APPLICATION

Kevin Higgins College Scholarship Applications must be postmarked by July 31, 2017 and sent to the following address:

**United States Rugby Foundation
Kevin Higgins College Scholarship Program
404 Euclid Avenue, Suite 302
San Diego, CA 92114**

We will not accept incomplete, late or faxed applications – NO EXCEPTIONS!

KEVIN HIGGINS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (FALL 2017)

SECTION ONE: Applicant information

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____
(including area code) (including area code)

E-mail Address: _____

Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Parent(s) Name(s): _____
(male or female) (mm/dd/year) (list only if you a dependent)

- Are you a legal resident of the United States? Yes No
- Cumulative High School GPA (on 4.0 scale) _____
- Student Status: Full-time Part-time
- How did you hear about this scholarship? USRF Newsletter USRF Website Coach
 Friend/Teammate Other: _____

Name of applicant's high school: _____

Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Name of applicant's high school or U19 team: _____

Name of applicant's high school or U19 coach: _____

Coach's Phone: (_____) _____ Coach's Cell Phone: (_____) _____
(including area code) (including area code)

Coach's E-mail Address: _____

Name of college or university applicant will be attending: _____

Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Name of applicant's college or university team: _____

Name of applicant's college or university coach: _____

Coach's Phone: (_____) _____ Coach's Cell Phone: (_____) _____
(including area code) (including area code)

Coach's E-mail Address: _____

Scholarships/Financial Aid for which you have applied for Academic Year 2017-2018:

Excluding the Kevin Higgins College Scholarship, please list the name(s) and amount(s) of each scholarship, grant or financial aid for which you have already or are planning to apply for the 2017-2018 academic year:

Scholarships/Financial Aid you have already received for Academic Year 2017-2018:

Please list the name(s) and amount(s) of each scholarship, grant or financial aid you have already received for the 2017-2018 academic year:

How do you anticipate meeting expenses not covered by scholarship(s)?

Section Two – Financial Information (to be completed by parent(s) and/or applicant):

Tax information for the year 2016 must be used to answer questions in Section Two. A copy of this information must be included with your application (see page 2 of guidelines for instructions).

* An independent applicant has not been claimed as a dependent on his/her parent's Federal Income Taxes for the previous year.

- Is applicant Independent* or Dependent Is applicant Single Married Other
- If applicant is dependent, do both parents work? Yes No
- Does applicant live in single parent home? Yes No
- Total # of family members in your household (including applicant but excluding roommates) claimed on 2016 taxes, if filed: _____
- # of family members in your household (including applicant but excluding roommates) attending college full-time in Fall, 2017: _____
- List which colleges they will attend: _____

If you are independent, complete only sub-section A. If you are dependent, complete BOTH sub-sections A & B.

Sub-Section A: Applicant's Income, Federal Tax and Assets

Did not file 2016 taxes Reason: _____

Income

Adjusted Gross Income (from 2016 taxes – see page 2 of guidelines) \$ _____

Other Income (family, friends, etc.) \$ _____

Non-Taxable Income (Social Security, Child Support, AFDC, etc.) \$ _____

Total UNITED STATES Federal Tax paid in prior year (if you received a refund, enter \$0) \$ _____

Medical/Dental expenses (not covered by insurance) \$ _____

Assets: Cash, Savings, Checking, Investments, etc. \$ _____

Total financial aid and grants \$ _____

Total Real Estate Owned:

A) Appraised Values: _____

B) Current Mortgage Values: _____

C) Net Values (A minus B): _____

Sub-Section B: Parent's Income, Federal Tax and Assets

Did not file 2016 taxes Reason: _____

Income

Adjusted Gross Income (from 2016 taxes – see page 2 of guidelines) \$ _____

Other Income (family, friends, etc.) \$ _____

Non-Taxable Income (Social Security, Child Support, AFDC, etc.) \$ _____

Total UNITED STATES Federal Tax paid in prior year (if you received a refund, enter \$0) \$ _____

Medical/Dental expenses (not covered by insurance) \$ _____

Assets: Cash, Savings, Checking, Investments, etc. \$ _____

Total financial aid and grants \$ _____

Total Real Estate Owned:

A) Appraised Values: _____

B) Current Mortgage Values: _____

C) Net Values (A minus B): _____

Below, please explain any financial hardships or unusual circumstances in your household: _____

I certify the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to provide additional verification of the information I have given on this form. Falsification of information may result in my eligibility or termination of any scholarships granted. This page must be signed or your application will be considered incomplete.

Applicant's Signature _____ Parent's Signature _____ Date _____
 (if a dependent)

REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS AND RELEASE

Applicant Certification: I certify the information in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that could otherwise jeopardize consideration of this application. I certify that I am not related to any individual employed by, who serves on a scholarship committee of, or sits on the Board of Directors of the United States Rugby Foundation.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Applicant's Social Security Number _____
(this information is required)

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____
(if applicant is under 18)

Agreement of Terms: I certify that I have read carefully the criteria and checklist for the Kevin Higgins College Scholarship to which I am applying. I understand that if I do not submit the information required, if it arrives late, is faxed, or the materials are not submitted together, my application is incomplete and will not be considered. I agree to adhere to all of the terms and conditions of my scholarship and those set forth by the United States Rugby Foundation if I am selected as a recipient.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Release of information – must be signed by applicant AND parent/guardian: By signing this application, I hereby formally authorize any individual of any portion of this document to provide information of any kind whatsoever requested by the United States Rugby Foundation or any of its employees, or representatives, and forever release any of the entities or individuals seeking or providing any such information from any and all claims or damages that I may or actually sustain as a result of seeking or providing such information.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____
(if applicant is under 18)

Press and Media Release: If selected to receive a scholarship, I authorize the United States Rugby Foundation to use my name, photograph and any other information for press and media purposes. **This information is required** – if a box is not selected, your application will be considered incomplete and you will be ineligible to receive a scholarship.

- Yes, I authorize the U.S. Rugby Foundation full use of my name, photo and other information.
- Yes, I authorize the U.S. Rugby Foundation partial use of my information.

Please list (i.e. name, school, etc.) _____

- No, I do not authorize the U.S. Rugby Foundation to use my name, photo or other information.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____
(if applicant is under 18)