



## **DAKOTAS AER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Dakotas AER Scholarship Program was established for the purpose of increasing and retaining the number of teachers in North Dakota and South Dakota who are fully qualified to provide services to students and adults with visual impairments through support of retraining efforts. Applicants must be residents of either North or South Dakota or enrolled in a university program in North or South Dakota.

Each year, the Dakotas AER Chapter will award a scholarship to individuals who wish to pursue training in the field of Visual Impairment. All applications must be postmarked by April 8, 2020 and the winner announced at the Dakotas AER Conference April 15-17, 2020 for payment in the fall semester.

This annual scholarship is in the amount of \$500. Information and applications will be sent to Dakotas Chapter AER members in both states and North and South Dakota universities who offer courses related to visual impairment.

A panel of raters appointed by the AER president and representing Dakotas AER Chapter will review the application packets and rate according to an identified system. Scholarship recipients will be evaluated on the following factors:

- Completion of one semester in either an undergraduate or graduate approved program in Visual Impairment or Orientation and Mobility
- GPA of 3.0
- Letters of Recommendation
- Financial Need
- AER Membership
- Previous AER scholarships
- Other scholarship awards

Other applicant information:

- Applicant must be enrolled either physically on campus or in an on-line program
- Workshops or conferences are not considered coursework under this program.
- Applicants in non-approved visual impairment and/or O&M programs will not be considered for a scholarship.
- Priority will be given to students who do not have other sources of financial aid.
- Applications must be submitted by the specified deadline. Late or incomplete application packets will not be considered.
- Failure to complete coursework or program requirements will result in disqualification for future awards.
- Scholarship amount will be awarded directly to the university foundation of the college providing the vision program. The university foundation will dispense the funds to the person selected.

For more information, contact Jane Mundschenk, COMS® by calling 605-626-2580/1-888-275-3814 or email [jane.mundschenk@sdsbvi.northern.edu](mailto:jane.mundschenk@sdsbvi.northern.edu)