

Elmer G Biddick

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Brian D. Nodolf - President
Rachel L. Jordan - Vice-President
Bradley D. Biddick - Secretary/Treasurer

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Phone (608) 943-6363 Fax (608) 943-6365
www.biddickfoundation.com

Peggy J. Biddick
Robin M. Masters
James W. Neuendorf
Rebecca Stevicks

GRANT APPLICATION

***Must be received in our office on or before the due dates below**

Due Dates April 15th and October 15th

Date: April 12, 2019

Name of Organization (must match IRS 501(c)(3) designation) Southwest Wisconsin Technical College
Foundation, Inc

Address 1800 Bronson Blvd

City, State, Zip Fennimore, WI 53809

Phone 608-822-2362

Person Responsible for the Grant Holly Clendenen

Position in the Organization Executive Director

Organization's Purpose The Foundation's mission is to promote learning through funding and activities that enable Southwest Tech to provide opportunities for success. Scholarships and student support are the top fundraising priorities established by the college and Foundation. Financial barriers are a main reason many students do not complete their degree, and the Foundation supports this need.

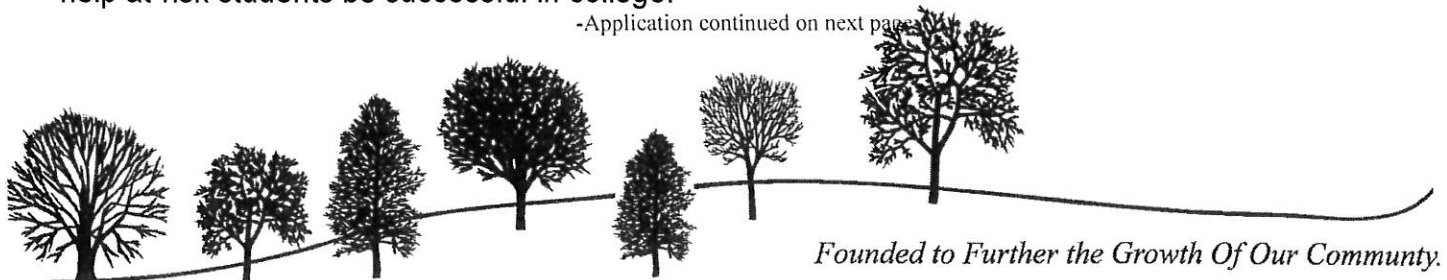
This application must include your organization's latest IRS Letter of Determination showing exemption and public support status. (Not required for units of Government & public schools).

Grant Request \$ 2,500.00

Describe the reason for this grant request in the space below:

I am requesting that the Elmer G. Biddick Charitable Foundation grant the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation a \$2,500 grant to support the Gas Card program. The Gas Card program provides students in financial need with a \$25 gas card to help with costs of commuting to campus. In 2018-19 the demand for gas cards has been higher than the previous two years – more than \$7,500 has been give out in gas cards. The total program cost for 2019-20 is estimated to be \$12,500 as a new wrap-around student support program, Charger Scholars, is initiated to specifically help at-risk students be successful in college.

-Application continued on next page



Founded to Further the Growth Of Our Community.

April 12, 2019

Elmer G Biddick Charitable Foundation
Mr. Brian D Nodolf, President
11623 State Road 80
Livingston, WI 53554

Dear Mr. Nodolf,

Southwest Wisconsin Technical College, located in Fennimore, WI, serves five southwest Wisconsin counties including Grant County and Iowa County. We strive for all of our students to succeed in compelling careers and make positive and impactful contributions to their local communities. In 2018 Forbes Magazine ranked Southwest Tech the #1 two-year trade college in Wisconsin and #13 in the nation!

Our 2017 graduate success report found that 97% of our graduates are very satisfied or satisfied with their education, and 97% are employed within one year of graduation. 65% of graduates state the top reason they attended Southwest Tech is directly related to employability. 55% of our graduates work in southwest Wisconsin after graduation, and 85% of our graduates work in Wisconsin after graduation.

I am requesting that the Elmer G. Biddick Charitable Foundation consider granting the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation a \$2,500 grant to support the Gas Card program. The Gas Card program provides students in financial need with a \$25 gas card to help with the costs of commuting to campus. Students are typically eligible for up to three gas cards per semester. In order to receive a gas card, a student must meet with either their advisor or the mental health counselor. The mental health counselor can help students connect with other college and community resources that can provide additional financial support.

Southwest Tech data shows that on average a student commutes 30 miles one way to campus. With no public transportation in southwest Wisconsin, students must rely on their own transportation. In 2018-19, 44% of the nearly 2,700 students enrolled in an associate's degree or technical diploma were categorized as economically disadvantaged by the Wisconsin Technical College System. Over the past three years, the number one emergency request from students has been for assistance with commuting costs (gas) and car repairs. In 2018-19 the demand for gas cards has been higher than the previous two years – more than \$7,500 has been given out in gas cards.

The total program cost for 2019-20 is estimated to be \$12,500 as a new wrap-around student support program, Charger Scholars, is initiated to specifically help at-risk students be successful in college. Providing gas cards to these identified students is a planned support to increase student retention and graduation. Students who are

eligible and selected for the Charger Scholars program must meet mandatory mentoring, tutoring, and workshop attendance standards in order to receive scholarship and gas card support.

Grant funding from the Elmer G. Biddick Charitable Foundation will be used in the 2019-20 academic year. Any student enrolled in a program is eligible for a gas card if they are in a financial emergency. Gas cards are distributed to students through the year so the impact is felt by students throughout the year.


Many alumni and retirees support the Gas Card program with annual donations as the program is one of the main requests during the Foundation's fall solicitation. College employees also give to the Gas Card program through the employee giving campaign and ongoing payroll deductions. Gas cards are typically purchased through Kwik Trip which sells the Foundation the cards at a discount to make the donated dollars stretch further.

If this request is not funded at this time, the Southwest Tech Foundation will continue to seek other gifts and grants in order to continue to provide gas cards to students in need, but the total amount of gas cards available to students may be lower than the need. Additionally, if new funds are not secured to support the Charger Scholars request for gas cards that piece of the program may not be offered next year.

College and national research identifies that students who do not complete their program cite financial reasons as the cause. Gas cards and other student support programs are a critical factor in Southwest Tech's above-average retention and graduation rates. In 2017 Southwest Tech's retention rate was 75% and graduation rate was 60%; this compares to national averages of 62% and 38%. Two of the college's Health Indicators are retention and graduation. In order to raise our current rates, student financial support must be available.

Thank you for considering this request to invest in the Southwest Tech Foundation again. We appreciate the past support of the Elmer G. Biddick Foundation and value the support you provide to local non-profits and communities. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Respectfully,



Holly Clendenen
Executive Director
(608) 822-2362

hclendenen@swtc.edu

Enclosures: Grant Application, Organization Information, IRS Determination
Letter

- The Southwest Tech Foundation, Inc is a 501(c)3 organization which supports Southwest Wisconsin Technical College.
- The Southwest Tech Foundation was incorporated in 1980.
- The Southwest Tech Foundation is governed by a board of directors including 10 at-large members, the College President, Foundation executive director, a district board member representative, a faculty/staff representative, and student representative.
- Annually the Southwest Tech Foundation awards more than \$200,000 in student scholarships as well as student emergency grants, gas cards, application waivers, student club funding, faculty and staff professional development awards, and academic program funding.
- Southwest Tech and the Southwest Tech Foundation work cooperatively each year to determine fundraising priorities to guide the work of the Foundation to best support the priorities of the college.

Internal Revenue Service
District Director

Department of the Treasury

P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Date: APR 25 1997

Southwest Wisconsin Technical College
Foundation, Inc.
1800 Bronson Blvd.
Fennimore, WI 53809-9778

Person to Contact:
Gordon Schnur
Telephone Number:
513-241-5199
Fax Number
513-684-5936
Federal Identification Number:
39-1828080

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is in response to your request for a copy of your organization's determination letter. This letter will take the place of the copy you requested.

Our records indicate that a determination letter issued in June 1981 granted your organization exemption from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. That letter is still in effect.

Based on information subsequently submitted, we classified your organization as one that is not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because it is an organization described in section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

This classification was based on the assumption that your organization's operations would continue as stated in the application. If your organization's sources of support, or its character, method of operations, or purposes have changed, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on the exempt status and foundation status of your organization.

Your organization is required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, only if its gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of the organization's annual accounting period. The law imposes a penalty of \$20 a day, up to a maximum of \$10,000, when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay.

All exempt organizations (unless specifically excluded) are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more paid to each employee during a calendar year. Your organization is not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Organizations that are not private foundations are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, these organizations are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes.