The Ronald J. Woods Memorial Scholarship is offered in honor of Ronald J. Woods, founder of Bootstrap High School which he founded in Belgrade, Montana to support high potential but low achieving students. Ron, an average student at Notre Dame University, demonstrated his potential after graduation when he developed and patented the polymer process for producing plastic car parts that do not crack in the sun (such as dashboards). He believed he was fortunate to “get a break” to be able to show his potential. He went on to own five production factories in Detroit, Michigan before retiring and moving to Montana. Ron believed that many students do not achieve high grades in school due to circumstances beyond their control, but have the potential to excel if given support. He believed that many such students just “need a break”. This scholarship is intended to help such students further their education and reach their potential. The recipient of this scholarship will receive an award up to $10,000 for tuition and/or books. The scholarship will be deposited in a local School Foundation (501C3) to be dispersed in four equal yearly increments to an educational institution where the recipient is enrolled and attending. Most school foundations disperse funds by semester (one-half the yearly amount).

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES:
Your School Foundation (501C3) sponsors this scholarship opportunity in coordination with the Ronald J. Woods Charitable Trust. The scholarship is intended for high school graduates who are entering an institution of higher education, including four year colleges, two-year colleges and/or trade schools. A Scholarship Committee of the Ronald J Woods Charitable Trust will review all complete applications and make recommendations to the Trust for final approval. Funds will be forwarded from the Trust and deposited in the School Foundation for an approved recipient. The School Foundation will disperse yearly increments directly to the recipient’s college. Upon selection, a recipient must provide the Scholarship Committee with documentation by August 1 showing that he/she has met the criteria to receive each subsequent yearly increment. Scholarship awards will be based on criteria as stated below. **** occasionally scholarships are awarded to high school students who NEED an alternative type school to become successful and avoid dropping out of school…. an alternative form of this application will be used for such students *****

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA:
• **Applicants** must be in good academic standing with a cumulative high school grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher and possess high potential for success in higher education as demonstrated by standardized test scores, ASVAB scores, school personnel recommendations, etc. These scholarships are not competitive based on GPA (For example, a 4.0 GPA will not result in a higher priority than a 2.5 GPA).
• **Applicants** must be a graduate of a high school on or before July 1.
• **Applicants** must submit a completed application form with all required documentation.
• **Applicants** must provide proof of acceptance into a college/trade school and enroll full time in the fall semester. Acceptance into a 2 year school of study (trade schools) will be given equal priority
• **Applicants** must file for financial aid and demonstrate a substantial financial need (preference will be given if the family income is not more than twice the national poverty level) with priority given to applicants capable of receiving other financial assistance (FAFSA), but preferably not more than 75% of the yearly cost of college tuition and books.
• **Applicants** must forward a copy of their FAFSA (financial aid) results and any other financial assistance results (grants, other scholarships, etc.)
• **Applicants** must submit 2 letters of recommendation preferably from school counselors, teachers and/or principals.
• **Applicants** must be submitted and postmarked on or before May 1.
REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL RECIPIENTS

- **Recipients** must maintain a 2.5 grade point average while in college.
- **Recipients** must be enrolled as a full time college student, typically taking a minimum of twelve (12) credits per semester at the college indicated on this application (a request must be submitted to the scholarship committee for approval if a student wishes to use the scholarship for a different college).
- **Recipients** must submit a college transcript yearly to the Scholarship Committee by August 1 (a GPA of 2.5 or higher each year is required and/or proof of significant improvement)
- **Recipients** must submit an End of Year Report every year to the Scholarship Committee by August 1, indicating how they have maintained the pillars of respect, responsibility, safety, compassion and integrity. AND explaining their expenses and how they met them.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS:

Application forms are available through your School Foundation, high school guidance office and/or directly from Dr. Carmi Wells at 18 Cactus Lane, Whitehall, MT 59759. Direct all questions regarding the application process first to your high school counselor, and then, if necessary, to Dr. Wells at 498-0724.

MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO: Curt Halvorsen - 4445 Thorpe Road – Belgrade, MT 59714. Applications must be printed with 3 copies recommended to speed up the review process.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 1 FOR THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR. (Applications will be accepted after January 1 and are preferred by March 1)

APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Completed application page titled “general information”
2. Completed application page titled “financial information”
3. A copy of your FAFSA (financial aid) results and any other notifications of grants, scholarships, etc. to be received including ROTC if applicable.
4. A copy of a letter of acceptance into an accredited university, college or trade school.
5. Copy of high school transcripts reflecting a cumulative high school GPA of a 2.0 or higher
6. Two letters of recommendation from school personnel.
7. A short essay stating your GOALS after you graduate from college. Please include a written explanation of how this scholarship will help your financial need for college, based on your “financial information” page and any additional relevant information.

NO APPLICATION WILL BE ACTED UPON UNTIL ALL DOCUMENTATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCEPTED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE. APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AND FINAL CANDIDATES WILL BE SELECTED TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AT A LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED (some travel may be required). Confidentiality is maintained, and once a final decision is reached, all non-selected applications will be destroyed.

**NEW** - Recipients must submit a picture of themselves before any funds will be allocated. This will facilitate future identification of recipients. Pictures are not requested with an application and will not be used for any decisions regarding approval of scholarships.
APPLICANT AGREEMENT:

I understand that I must submit all required documentation on or before May 1 to be considered for this scholarship, and that incomplete or missing documentation or false information will result in my application being rejected for consideration. I understand that if selected for an interview, I will attend the interview at the location and time specified by the Scholarship Committee. If approved for a Ronald J. Woods Memorial scholarship, I understand that I must enroll in and attend the institution which I indicated herein, or notify the Scholarship Committee with a request for approval of the scholarship to be used for a different institution. I agree to submit a picture of myself (3 recommended) if approved for a scholarship. I understand that I must notify the Scholarship Committee immediately if I withdraw from attendance or decide to attend only part time. At the end of each fall semester, I agree to submit a Fall Report of my grades and general success in keeping the pillars and meeting financial obligations. At the end of each year of receiving this scholarship, I understand that I must submit to the Scholarship Committee: a) transcript of grades; and b) a personal essay/email explaining how I upheld the pillars of respect, responsibility, compassion, safety and integrity. I understand that failure to submit a Fall Report or both parts of the End of Year Report a) and b) above can result in the next year's increment of my scholarship being withheld and not sent to the college. I understand if I do not submit yearly reports and do not reply to communications from the Scholarship Committee for a period of one year, that my scholarship will be revoked with the remainder being awarded to another student. I understand that the scholarship will be issued directly to the school and must be used for tuition and/or books only. I understand that the Scholarship Committee reserves the right to publish my name and/or picture in a newspaper or other publication if I am a scholarship recipient. I HAVE COMPLETED THIS APPLICATION ACCURATELY AND FACTUALLY. I HAVE READ THE ABOVE STATEMENT AND AGREE TO ALL THE CONTENTS AS STATED herein.

SIGNED: _________________________________________ DATE: _____________________

(If under 18) Parent Signature required: ______________________________________________

Submit Printed Application to: Curt Halvorsen, Box 4445 Thorpe Rd, Belgrade, MT 59714
Submit Fall Report and End of Report to: duanebj@gmail.com or to Duane Bjelland, PO 1944, Bozeman, Mt 59771
Contact Dr. Carmi Wells at 498-0724 or carmiwells@gmail.com for any questions regarding applications, requirements, scholarship awards, release of funds from school foundations to a college, etc.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT
RONALD J. WOODS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student’s Name:_________________________________ Age __________

(if under 18) Parent’s Name _______________________________________

Address:_____________________________________________________

City________________________ State_______________ Zip_________

Phone_________ Email________________ Soc. Security #____________

Current School ___________________ Grade_____ Current GPA _____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony?  Yes ____   No _____

Have you applied for a scholarship with us previously? Yes ____No ____

Have you completed a FAFSA? (Free Application for Federal Student

Aid) Yes _____ No ______ Are FAFSA results included ____________

Application to attend: College____ Trade School ____  High School ____

(If you checked “high school” contact the Scholarship Committee)

Name of institution which you plan to attend and want funds sent to:

_________________________________________________________________

City________________________________________State_____________________

Name of Program/Degree_________________________ 2 yr?__  4 Yr?__

Month/year to begin _______/_________ Full time ___ Part Time____

Anticipated month/year of Graduation:    _______/__________

What are you planning to do after graduation from college?

_________________________________________________________________
RONALD J. WOODS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Please outline estimated ANNUAL EXPENSES of the institution you plan to attend:

Tuition $______________
Books $______________
Room/board $______________
Other $______________ for __________________________

TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES $________________________

Please outline your anticipated ANNUAL FUNDS for paying each year:

Your annual contribution $_____________ (savings, work, etc.)
Parents’ annual contribution $______________
Grants $______________ (Pell Grant, etc.)
Other scholarships $______________ (excluding this one)
Other $______________ from _______________________

TOTAL ESTIMATED FUNDS $________________________

(do not include this scholarship)

Please provide detailed information as follows:

1. Father’s occupation __________________annual income $____________

2. Mother’s occupation __________________annual income $____________

3. Number of siblings living at home _____ at college _____

4. Other relevant information: ________________________________

5. Attach FAFSA information/results to this page

(Please be sure you have attached all the necessary other documents such as letters of recommendation, essay, etc. This information will be kept confidential and for non-selected applicants, all application information will be destroyed. Keep a copy of all pages for future reference.)