FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2020

Contact: Communication
(334) 694-4686
comm@alsde.edu

Alabama School Transportation Professionals
Offering Four Student Scholarships

Montgomery, Ala. – Alabama’s Pupil Transportation Professionals are offering four special scholarship opportunities this year for our state’s public high school students:

Greg Ray Memorial Education Scholarship

An Alabama public high school senior will be eligible to receive the Alabama School Transportation Association (ASTA) Conference Greg Ray Memorial Education Scholarship. During his long career of service, Greg served as Baldwin County Schools’ Shop Foreman, was the Inspection Program Supervisor at the State Department of Education, Mobile County Schools’ Fleet Manager, and chairperson for Alabama’s School Bus Specifications Committee. This scholarship is being provided by Transportation South in Pelham to honor the memory of Greg’s notable service to the public schools of Alabama.

This is a one-time, $2,000 scholarship awarded to a deserving public school student whose guardian is an active pupil transportation employee for the past three years.

A student qualifies by graduating from a public high school and then attending a postsecondary education institution in 2020-2021. Eligible students must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA and are selected based on their leadership, citizenship, and service.

This scholarship can be used for any part of the student’s 2020-2021 school year tuition, books, or fees. Each school system will select a local winner and submit their winning application to the State ASTA Selection Committee. Only one application from each school district will be judged at the state level. Applications are due no later than April 1, 2020.

Charles “Chuck” Poland Education Scholarship

An Alabama public high school senior will be eligible to receive the Alabama School Transportation Association (ASTA) Charles “Chuck” Poland Education Scholarship. This scholarship is named for Charles Poland, a school bus driver from Dale County who stood between an armed attacker and students on his school bus, and sacrificed his life to protect children as he drove his route in Midland City, Alabama, on January 29, 2013.

This is a one-time, $1,000 scholarship awarded to a deserving public school student whose guardian is an active pupil transportation employee for the past three years.

A student qualifies by graduating from a public high school and then attending a postsecondary educational institution in 2020-2021. Eligible students must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA and are selected based on their leadership, citizenship, and service.

—more—
Alabama School Transportation Student Scholarship Opportunities

This $1,000 scholarship can be used for any part of the student’s 2020-2021 school year tuition, books, or fees. Each school system may select a local winner and submit the winning application to the State ASTA Selection Committee no later than April 1.

Please be reminded that only one application from each school system or district will be judged at the state level. **Applications are due no later than April 1, 2020.**

**Mike Cox Memorial Education Scholarship**

An Alabama public high school senior will be eligible to receive the *Alabama School Transportation Association (ASTA) Conference Mike Cox Memorial Education Scholarship*. This scholarship is named for Mike Cox, who passed away in June 2017.

Mike served as the transportation supervisor for the Montgomery County School System for 18 years, and as an ASTA Board officer for over 10 years. This scholarship is being provided by *Southland International in Birmingham*, in honor of his notable service to Alabama’s schools.

**This is a one-time, $1,000 scholarship for two (2) deserving public school students whose guardians are active pupil transportation employees for the past three years.**

A student qualifies by graduating from a public high school and then attending a postsecondary education institution in 2020-2021. Eligible students must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA and are selected based on their leadership, citizenship, and service. The $1,000 scholarship can be used for any part of the student’s 2020-2021 school year tuition, books, or fees.

Each school system will select a local winner and submit the winning application to the State ASTA Selection Committee no later than April 1.

Only **one** application from each school system or district will be judged at the state level. **Applications are due no later than April 1, 2020.**

**Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference Student Scholarship**

The Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC) is a nonprofit organization created more than 70 years ago. It has hosted annual conferences focused on educating student transportation professionals, working in the southeast. Member states include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

With industry support, SESPTC has accumulated funds to disburse in the form of student education scholarships. **This year the SESPTC Board has approved one $2,500 scholarship to be awarded to a deserving student in each of its 14-member states.**

These scholarships must be used to cover expenses at a postsecondary institution and will be paid to the institution, in support of the student’s 2020-2021 expenses.

To qualify, a parent/guardian family must have a gross taxable income less than $80,000 for each of the past three tax years and a parent/guardian of the student must have been actively employed in public school transportation for the past three years.

A student qualifies by graduating from a public high school and then attending a postsecondary educational institution in 2020. The $2,500 scholarship can be used for any part of the student’s 2020-2021 school year tuition, books, or fees.

—more—
Alabama School Transportation Student Scholarship Opportunities

Eligible applicants include any of the following transportation staff: bus drivers, bus aides/monitors, bus mechanics, directors of transportation services, bus supervisors, bus driver trainers, safety inspectors, and many other positions employed by a school district, their contractors, a state school, or the State Department of Education.

Only one application from each school system or district will be judged at the state level. Applications shall not be submitted to the state by student applicants.

Applications are due no later than April 1, 2020.

To learn more about these scholarship opportunities, please contact the Alabama State Department of Education Pupil Transportation Section at PupilTransportation@alsde.edu.

###