

JOHN RONEKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Annual scholarship of \$500 for freshmen
entering the Communication Department Buffalo State College

1. **ELIGIBILITY.** High school students are eligible to apply if they have been accepted for full-time enrollment in the Communication Department at Buffalo State College and meet the following criteria.
2. **CRITERIA.**
 - Academics: Applicants must have a minimum high school average of 85.
 - Financial Need: Applicants must demonstrate financial need with completed FAFSA forms.
 - Personal Statement: Applicants must submit a personal essay of 400-600 words explaining why they wish to pursue a career in communication through the Buffalo State Communication Department.
 - Preference: In the event of equally qualified applicants, preference is given to graduates of West Seneca West High School.
3. **APPLICATION PROCESS.** Download the application form at www.buffalostate.edu/communication ("Current Student" section). Include a typed personal statement as outlined above. Download a FAFSA application at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The Financial Aid office will determine eligibility based on financial need and high-school average and will forward applications to the Communication Department's selection committee, which will select the recipient. The recipient must be a registered student or must acknowledge intent to enroll in the Communication Department, or the scholarship will be offered to another applicant.
4. **DISBURSEMENT.** The first disbursement of \$250 will be made for the Fall semester of the recipient's first year of study, after the recipient has submitted a letter of acceptance. Subsequent disbursement will be made for the second semester if the student maintains good academic standing.
5. **Selection Panel.** Scholarship recipients will be selected by a five-person panel made up of three faculty members and one student member of the department's Student Enrichment Committee, along with the department chair.
6. **Financial Stability of Scholarship.** This scholarship is generated by fund in an endowed account in the Buffalo State College Foundation.

JOHN R. RONEKER JR. was born and raised in Buffalo. He entered Buffalo State College in 1985, majoring in Communication. Although he knew he wanted to study broadcasting, it wasn't until he attended a seminar conducted by a professional from the Federal Communications Commission that he truly discovered his passion for communication. After graduation in 1989, he accepted a position with the FCC as a public affairs specialist in Buffalo, and he later worked with the FCC in Kansas City. John always felt that it was because of the Communication Department faculty and possibilities offered at Buffalo State that he found his professional calling. The Roneker family hopes that this scholarship will help incoming Communication majors discover their passion for media production, journalism, public communication, communication studies, or other programs offered by the Communication Department, even as John did.