# Chippewa Valley Raptors Dedication & Commitment Scholarship

In Honor of Shannon Messing

The Chippewa Valley Raptors are proud to announce the **Chippewa Valley Raptors Dedication and Commitment Scholarship**; a financial award established by the Chippewa Valley Raptors travel softball organization to honor and support graduating athletes who have demonstrated long-term loyalty, leadership, and perseverance to the Raptors Organization. This scholarship is named in honor of Shannon Messing, a shining example of what it means to live with strength, resilience, and unwavering commitment. Her story is a testament perseverance, loyalty, and heart. Values the Raptors organization holds dear. To be a Raptor is to rise together. Shannon is proof that even in the most difficult moments, Raptors pride shines through.

## **Purpose:**

This scholarship celebrates players who have shown exceptional dedication to the Raptors over multiple seasons. It reflects the values of consistency, personal growth, and a deep-rooted passion for travel softball. Being a Raptor means more than just wearing the jersey; it's about representing the organization with integrity, grit, and heart, year after year. This scholarship serves as a way for the Raptors to give back to those who have helped build and sustain the program's legacy.

# **Key Application Dates:**

All dates are for the current Raptors Season which runs September 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>.

- **Application Opens:** January 1
- Application Deadline: April 1 (Late or incomplete applications will not be considered)
- Recipient Notification: No later than May 1
- Scholarship Award Distribution: No later than August 31

# **Eligibility Criteria:**

To be eligible for the **Chippewa Valley Raptors Dedication and Commitment Scholarship**, applicants must meet all the following requirements:

#### 1. Raptors Program Involvement

- o Must be a current graduating high school senior **or** be in your final year of Junior Olympic (J.O.) softball eligibility based on USA Softball age classification rules.
- Must be on an **active** Chippewa Valley Raptors roster as of August 31st of the scholarship year, which marks the end of the official Raptors season.

## 2. College Acceptance

o Must have accepted an offer to attend an **accredited two-year or four-year institution**. *Proof of acceptance must be provided*.

#### 3. Minimum Participation Requirement

o Must have been on an active Chippewa Valley Raptors roster for at least four full seasons.

#### 4. Good Standing in the Organization

- Must be in good standing with the Chippewa Valley Raptors organization, including:
  - Fulfillment of team and organizational responsibilities (fees, attendance, behavior expectations)
  - Always follow and promote Chippewa Valley Raptors core value.

## 5. Academic Performance

Must be eligible for high school graduation with satisfactory academic standing (minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5).

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## **Scholarship Amounts:**

Scholarship award amounts are determined based on the total number of qualified seasons the applicant has accrued. A **qualifying season** is defined as being on an active Raptors roster from September 1st through August 31st, which constitutes a full Raptors season.

**First-year players** who joined the program after tryouts may still qualify for a full season if they were:

- Added to an active roster mid-season, and
- Remained on that roster for a minimum of 4 months, and
- Were actively rostered through the end of the respected season

Based on the number of Qualified Season Scholarship award amounts are as follows:

- 4 qualifying seasons: \$200
- 5 qualifying seasons: \$250
- 6 qualifying seasons: \$400
- 7 qualifying seasons: \$450
- 8 qualifying seasons: \$600
- 9 qualifying seasons: \$650
- 10 qualifying seasons: \$800
- 11 qualifying seasons: \$850
- 12 qualifying seasons: \$1000

Qualified Seasons **do not need to be consecutive**, but players are only considered "First-year" once. If a player leaves the Raptors and comes back in another year, they must be on an active roster for the full season to be a qualified season. All participation will be verified through internal Chippewa Valley Raptors roster records.

## **Availability of Funds:**

Scholarship payouts are subject to the availability of funds each year. The Chippewa Valley Raptors are committed to supporting their athletes, and funding will be evaluated annually based on the organization's financial position. Finalized award amounts will be determined by December 21st of the current fiscal year.

# **Application Process:**

Follow the steps below to apply for this great financial award. The application form can be downloaded at www.chippewavalleyraptors.com

#### 1. Confirm Eligibility

o Applicants must review and meet all scholarship eligibility criteria.

## 2. Gather Required Documentation

- o Proof of college acceptance provided (e.g., official acceptance letter, email confirmation from the admissions office, or letter of intent or enrollment deposit confirmation).
- o Proof of satisfactory academic standing (e.g., recent report card, letter from school, transcript, diploma)

## 3. Complete the Application Form

- o Fill out all sections of the Chippewa Valley Raptors Dedication and Commitment Scholarship Application Form, ensuring accuracy and completeness.
- Complete the essay questions included on the application form based on your experience being a Raptor.

## 4. Submit Your Application

o Submit via email to <u>info@chippewavalleyraptors.com</u> by the application deadline.

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