

2025 DockDogs Youth Recognition Committee

During the 2019 DockDogs® Rules Committee meeting, the Youth Recognition Awards Committee was established to recognize youth handlers.

These Awards will be presented as follows:

- “Outstanding Youth”, age 12 and under
 - This award will be presented at The Golden Paws Gala. Winner will receive a \$500 (non-expiring) DockDogs Credits
- “Outstanding Teen”, age 13-18
 - This award will be presented at Golden Paws Gala. Winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship
- In the event no applications are received in one category, the committee reserves the right to award an additional winner/s in a different age category
- Awards amounts may be subject to change in the event that annual fundraising is insufficient to award a \$500 Outstanding Youth and \$1000 Outstanding Teen award

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Awards are open to all DockDogs handlers that meet the age criteria
2. These awards will be presented to outstanding, well-rounded handlers (not necessarily merit or the handler with the biggest jumping dog)
3. Youth and Teens will be expected to fill out an application, attach 2-5 letters of recommendation from non-family members, and any other supporting documentation they would like such as photos; academic, sports or other awards; or additional letters of recommendation, for example
4. An applicant must attend at least **one** event during the Dockdogs season (Club or National) or have attended the Dockdogs World Championships the previous year
5. The Youth Recognition Committee will review the applications and determine the winners
6. An applicant may only win each award one time. However, if awarded a second- (or other) place, the youth may then apply in future years
 - a. An “Outstanding Youth” winner may apply and win “Outstanding Teen” (when he/she becomes eligible)
7. Youth ages will be as of the close of the DockDogs season

AWARDS:

- Outstanding Youth award recipient will receive credits within 90 days of receipt of the award
- Outstanding Teen monies will be held until the winner provides proof of continuing education
 - An email shall be sent to Youth Recognition Committee at the following email address: youthrecognition@dogz.tv to claim scholarship funds
- **Educational Institutions Accepted:**
 - Universities
 - Colleges

- o Business schools
- o Technical schools
- o Trade schools
- o Vocational schools
- o Continued education for individuals with learning differences, disabilities or delays will be case handled

USE OF FUNDS:

- Funds will be managed by the YOUTH RECOGNITION COMMITTEE AND THE B.A.A.R.K. FOUNDATION until the Youth Recognition Committee establishes its own 501(3)c
- Funds cannot be used before High School graduation unless the high school student is also enrolled in college and incurring expenses
- Tuition disbursement will be paid directly to the Education Institution
 - o Funds must be requested through the YOUTH RECOGNITION COMMITTEE at the following email address: youthrecognition@dogz.tv and contain pertinent information for the educational institution such as name and mailing address for the specific department that is to receive the funds, as well as any identifiers for the student account to which the funds are to be applied

Can be used for:

- A current or upcoming semester/term
- Former semester/term upon proof the bill is still outstanding to the school

Necessary Purchases: Funds will go directly to the school for purchases through the campus bookstore. Off campus purchases can be reimbursed, with appropriate paperwork

- Textbooks
- Required class supplies
- Equipment necessary for the completion of a course or program, such as a computer or lab equipment

EXPIRATION OF AWARDS:

- Outstanding Youth: No expiration of credits
- Outstanding Teen:
 - o For awards granted from 2019-2024, they will expire after 5 years.
 - For example, if awarded in 2020, the award will expire December 31, 2025
 - o The Youth Recognition Committee voted to update scholarship expiration timing for any for Outstanding Teen awards earned in 2025 and beyond to use graduation year instead of the year the award was earned.
 - Awards earned in 2025 and beyond will expire 3 years after the awardee graduates from high school
 - For example, if the winner graduates in 2025, the award will expire December 31, 2028

- Allowances and exceptions may be considered if the recipient contacts the Youth Recognition Committee Board at youthrecognition@dogz.tv
 - Expired/non claimed scholarships will be donated to the B.A.A.R.K Foundation in the winner's name
 - In the event the recipient is removed from the DockDogs® organization, this will also result in forfeiture, and the award will be donated to the B.A.A.R.K Foundation

Fundraising for the Youth Recognition Awards

- Fundraising for the Outstanding Youth and Outstanding Teen awards shall be done by the Youth Recognition sub-committee which is comprised of current and past DockDogs Youth Handlers or by donation to the Youth Recognition Committee