



The *Alex Popeck Never Back Down Foundation, Inc.* (www.apnbd.org) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to award ***Difference Makers*** Post-Secondary Scholarships to qualifying individuals **in the loving memory of Alex Popeck. Awards for 2017 will be in the amount of \$2,500.**

Alex was a junior at Sherwood High School, a scholar-athlete, captain of the track and cross country teams, and a model student, friend and competitor. He created an enduring influence and demonstrated how a single individual can make a tremendous difference in a community. Specifically, the "Never Back Down Foundation," established as a tribute to Alex, seeks to recognize teens who are true ***Difference Makers***—those who notice opportunities to make a difference and act upon those challenges or needs to create positive change in their community, school and/or family.

Eligibility Criteria to apply for a *Difference Maker Post-Secondary Scholarship*:

- ✓ Complete the general application with your name, address, and contact information,
- ✓ Be graduating in the ***SPRING OF 2017*** from a Montgomery County, MD high school (public or private),
- ✓ Submit ***TWO*** letters of recommendation (counselors, coaches, clergy, employers, teachers are all acceptable recommenders),
- ✓ Participate in extra-curricular activities and
- ✓ Submit a written ***personal statement*** on how you have made a difference by emulating Alex's "Never Back Down" principles (see below)

Personal Statement Specifications

In ***1,000 words or less***, describe how you have embraced and applied **any or all** of the "Never Back Down" principles (see below). Include how these principles led you to become a ***Difference Maker*** in your family, school, community, and/or someone else's life. Your statement should be ***ONE-SIDED*** and typed in Arial, Calibri or Comic Sans, size 12 font, and double-spaced.

Principles Reflect How Alex Led Us Through His Imprint To:

- Value others because everyone matters.
- Challenge peers to go beyond self-imposed limits to improve themselves.
- Strive for one's best even when faced with challenges.
- See and Act; notice opportunities to help, protect and support people and act on them/do something about them.



All submissions must be postmarked by **April 29th, 2017** and mailed to:

The Difference Maker Scholarship
The Alex Popeck Never Back Down Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 1204
Olney, Maryland 20830

OR submission may be made electronically to alexpopecknbd@gmail.com by the due date.

Difference Maker Post-Secondary Scholarship Award recipients will be contacted and have their names posted on the *Never Back Down Foundation* web site (www.apnbd.org) by **June 11th, 2017**. A check will be made payable to the awardee to use for tuition, books, and/or other school-related fees and will be presented at ***Alex's Run on June 11th, 2017***.

Applicant information

Name: (Nickname): _____

Address: _____

Telephone number(s): _____

Email: _____ School: _____

Extra-curricular activities (school-based):

Extra-curricular or community activities (non-school based):

I hereby declare that, if selected as a *Difference Maker* award recipient, that I will apply the awarded funds toward expenses associated with my post-secondary education.

Applicant Signature

- use additional pages if necessary -