



The **Alex Popeck Never Back Down Foundation, Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation that awards **Difference Makers** Post-Secondary Scholarships to Montgomery County, MD high school **graduating seniors** in loving memory of **Alex Popeck** (please visit [www.APNBD.org](http://www.APNBD.org) to learn more about Alex).

Awards for **2024** 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. The Never Back Down Foundation, established as a tribute to Alex, recognizes teens who are true **Difference Makers**—those who **notice** and **act** on opportunities to make a difference and make positive changes in their family, school and/or community.

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

- ✓ Be graduating in **2024** from a Montgomery County, MD high school (public or private),
- ✓ Complete the **general application** (see second page) with applicant's name, address, and contact information,
- ✓ Submit **TWO letters of recommendation** (counselors, coaches, clergy, employers, teachers and supervisors are acceptable recommenders),
- ✓ Participate in **extra-curricular activities** and
- ✓ Submit a **written personal statement/essay**

**Personal Statement Specifications**

In **1,500 words or fewer** describe how you have embraced and applied **any or all** of the "Never Back Down" principles (listed below). Include how these principles have led you to become a **Difference Maker** in your family, school, and/or community, and/or the life/lives of another/others. Your statement should be typed in **Arial, Calibri or Comic Sans, size 12 font, DOUBLE-SPACED, SINGLE-SIDED AND NOT STAPLED**. If submitted via email, all documents must be in PDF or PNG format

**Alex's values:**

- 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/or support people and act on them/do something about them.



**ABSOLUTE  
SUBMISSION  
DEADLINE**



All submissions must be **POSTMARKED by April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024** and mailed to:

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

**OR submissions may be made electronically to alexpopecknbd@gmail.com by the same due date.**

***Difference Maker Post-Secondary Scholarship Award*** recipients will be contacted by **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024** and have their names posted on the *Never Back Down Foundation* web site (**www.APNBD.org**). A check will be made payable to the awardee to use for tuition, books, and/or other school-related fees and will be presented to the recipient at an awards ceremony on **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at the OBGC Park at Freeman Fields at 9 am.**

**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, I will apply the awarded funds toward expenses associated with my post-secondary education.**

\_\_\_\_\_

*Applicant Signature*

**- use additional pages if necessary -**