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**WDTV, Davis & Elkins College announce Citizens Bank of West Virginia Emerging Leaders Scholarship**

***Winner receives a 4-year scholarship to D&E***

WDTV is pleased to announce a partnership with Davis & Elkins College and Citizens Bank of West Virginia to sponsor a new 4-year scholarship to D&E for members of West Virginia high school classes of 2022. The Citizens Bank of West Virginia Emerging Leaders Scholarship is a 4-year scholarship that includes tuition and room and board to D&E, with an approximate value of $160,000.

“WDTV is excited to be a part of this new opportunity for students in our area and across the state,” said WDTV General Manager Tim Defazio. “We realize that the future of our state is a worthy investment and we are proud to be a part of the program,” Defazio said.

A focus of the scholarship is to keep students in West Virginia after graduation. An essay question on the application will ask, ‘How will you pay it forward to the state of West Virginia?’ The emphasis on keeping talented leaders in the state is important to officials at D&E and at Citizens Bank of West Virginia.

“We want to keep our best and brightest here in West Virginia, right here within our state,” said Davis & Elkins College President Chris Wood. “I think D&E offers the type of high-quality education that can do just that. Then they can return to their communities in West Virginia and make a difference for us for decades to come,” Wood said.

“This is really exciting for us to be able to invest in our local college and invest in a graduate who could potentially be an employee for Citizens or be a local entrepreneur in Elkins or the surrounding area or even in their hometown,” said Nathaniel Bonnell, President and CEO of Citizens Bank of West Virginia.

Students must have a 3.25 overall GPA to be eligible. To apply for this scholarship go to wdtv.com and click on the Emerging Leaders Scholarship tab. Submit a 500-1500 word essay in response to this question: ‘If you win the Emerging Leaders Scholarship, how will you ‘pay it forward’ to the State of West Virginia?’

Deadline for entry is November 15, 2021. The winner of the Citizens Bank of West Virginia Emerging Leaders Scholarship will be announced during WDTV’s 5News at 6 on December 15.