



Contact: Allison Cleveland  
VP of Partnership & Visitor Services, Visit York County, SC  
803.329.5200  
[acleveland@visityorkcounty.com](mailto:acleveland@visityorkcounty.com)

Spokesperson: Natalie Hoekstra  
Area Director of Sales, Hilton Garden Inn Rock Hill, SC  
803.325.2800  
[hgirockhill\\_dos@hp-hotels.com](mailto:hgirockhill_dos@hp-hotels.com)

**York County Partners in Tourism presents the first Hospitality Tourism Education Scholarship**

*York County Partners in Tourism will present a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior with a hospitality and tourism related degree at the end of the 2019-2020 academic school year.*

**Rock Hill, SC (September 26, 2019)** – At the end of the 2019-2020 academic school year, [York County Partners in Tourism \(PIT\)](#) will present its first-ever Hospitality Tourism Education Scholarship to a high school graduating senior. Eligibility is open to any high-school senior in York County, SC who has applied to a college (or colleges) with the intention to enroll in a hospitality and tourism-related program. Additional requirements include having previously or currently worked or volunteered in the hospitality or tourism industry while maintaining a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Submissions must be received by March 15, 2020.

In addition to providing details relating to their participation in hospitality and tourism-related activities; as well as, listing academic awards, achievements and extra-curricular activities, applicants must submit an essay along with letters of recommendation and their transcript.

“We see this as a true partnership between the hospitality and tourism industry and our amazing school districts and charter schools,” says Derick Byrum, York County Partners in Tourism President and Local Store Marketing Director for Tricor Inc. (DBA Sonny’s BBQ). “By establishing this Hospitality Tourism Education Scholarship, it will help us achieve our mission of creating a thriving tourism economy while also enhancing the quality of life in York County for our citizens and visitors for years to come.”

One of the primary purposes of York County PIT is to sponsor and promote programs designed to improve the educational standards and business techniques in the industry, while also taking steps to protect and maintain the welfare of the tourism industry. Recognizing this, members of the PIT Board seek to find a way to invest in the future of the industry by assisting a deserving student as they work toward earning a degree in a hospitality and tourism-related program. With this being a new initiative, PIT members began research to

determine best-practices for submission guidelines and the selection process. Communication was also made with area schools to determine how to share this new scholarship information with students.

Requirements, submission details, as well as the actual application are available to [view and download](#) on the Partners in Tourism page on Visit York County's website. After review by a panel of hospitality and tourism leaders, the top candidate will be notified and granted a scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 by the end of the 2019 – 2020 academic school year.

For those interested in applying, please direct questions to [partnersintourism@visityorkcounty.com](mailto:partnersintourism@visityorkcounty.com).

**YORK COUNTY PARTNERS IN TOURISM**

*York County Partners in Tourism (PIT) is a group of area hotels, restaurants, shops, attractions and service-oriented businesses whose purpose is to encourage and promote travel and tourism while helping maintain public awareness of the importance of the tourism industry. [visityorkcounty.com/about/partners](http://visityorkcounty.com/about/partners)*

**VISIT YORK COUNTY** (also known as the Rock Hill/York County Convention & Visitors Bureau)

*Visit York County is the destination marketing organization (DMO) responsible for developing an authentic, unified identity for York County, SC. The CVB's goals are to promote the long-term development and marketing of their destination, focusing on convention, sports and leisure sales, tourism marketing and visitor services. The organization works in collaboration with the CVB Board as well as the York County Council and appropriate funding sources. For more information, visit [visityorkcounty.com](http://visityorkcounty.com).*

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