James M. Desiderio, Jr. died in 2010 at age fifty-two. He was a champion wrestler and graduate of E.L. Meyers High School and graduated from Miami Dade College. Known to most as “Desi”, he was a devoted son, brother, family member, teammate, coach and friend. He was a successful business owner and leader in the funeral services business; a civil servant through his years as a deputy coroner; a skilled craftsman in a family business; a devoted church volunteer and leader; and a good citizen of the community in which he lived through his involvement with charitable boards, committees, associations and events. Much of his life was dedicated to the sport of wrestling, as a tough competitor on the mat, as a coach who guided hundreds of young men to be their best, and as a PIAA referee.

Desi was devoted to his family, profession, community, church and friends. In establishing and sustaining this educational scholarship, those who were blessed to have known him hold hope that another wrestler may someday become as involved, concerned and caring as James M. Desiderio, Jr.

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**Applicant must be a graduating senior and squad member of any Wyoming Valley Conference Wrestling High-school program (Berwick; James M. Coughlin; Crestwood; Dallas; GAR Memorial; Hanover Area; Hazleton Area; Lake-Lehman; Elmer L. Meyers; Greater Nanticoke; Pittston Area; Tunkhannock; Wyoming Area; and Wyoming Valley West). This is a non-renewable one year scholarship. Preference is given to qualified wrestlers of E.L. Meyers High School if fulfilling all stated criteria.**

- **Proven and consistent participation in community service, church/religious service, or family life, and planned participation following post high school education.**

- **Dedication to team and promoting good sportsmanship and leadership by example.** The applicant need not be a starter nor team captain, but must have exhibited dedication and commitment to the team.

- **Financial need**

This scholarship supports the attendance to any post-secondary institution (e.g., two-year, four-year, technical, accredited, or community college) and can be used solely for undergraduate tuition, room, board and related expenses in any year for full or part-time attendance.

 Applicant must submit a fully completed and signed scholarship application and ALL required attachments to The Luzerne Foundation’s Scholarship Review Committee. The applicant MUST complete and include a written statement of worthiness attesting to dedication and sportsmanship, qualities exemplified by the life of James M. Desiderio, Jr., and it must be signed by a team coach. Your statement should include information that would help us in knowing you and in determining your eligibility or need (example: how you are financing your education; previous work experience; reasons for choosing your professional goals - e.g. athletics, business, the arts, education, medical profession, etc.; challenges in your life experience and long range plans after graduation).

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS**

In addition to the two-page application form, your application packet should contain:

1. An official transcript from your present or most recently attended school as well as a copy of your ACT and/or SAT test scores, if available.
2. A personal statement (as described above) in 2 pages or less, typed, 12 pitch with one inch margins all around. Your written statement of worthiness attesting to dedication and sportsmanship, qualities exemplified by the life of James M. Desiderio, Jr., and signed by a team coach. 
3. Letters of recommendation from non-family members (e.g., coaches, teachers, community service supervisors, clergy, employers, etc.) 2 or 3 letters is advisable.
4. A copy of the confirmation page of your FAFSA which lists your EFC – “Expected Family Contribution.” A complete copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) from your FAFSA Application must be available if requested.
APPLICATION INFORMATION – This application must accompany the requested additional information including essay, financial aid documentation, and/or letters of recommendation, etc. as stated in the Scholarship Criteria. Please use additional sheets as necessary. PLEASE USE BLUE OR BLACK INK.

Name: _______________________________________________________________________________________________

First    Middle    Last

Permanent Address: ________________________________________________________________________________

Street   City   State Zip

Date of Birth: _______________ Male___   Female___

Social Security # (last 4 digits)___________

Telephone #:__________________     Cell Phone#: _________________  Other Phone #: _________________

E-Mail: ______________________________________________ Luzerne County resident? ___Yes ___No

High School: _____________________________________________________  Graduation Date:______________

FAMILY INFORMATION (Provide the following information where applicable.)

Name of father/stepfather/guardian: ____________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________________

Street   City   State Zip

Name of mother/stepmother/guardian: ____________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________________

Street   City   State Zip

Check if applicable: ( ) father deceased   ( ) mother deceased   ( ) parents divorced

Name of spouse (if applicable): ____________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________________

Street   City   State Zip

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

College you are planning to attend: ________________________________________________________________

Address (City/State) of college: ________________________________________________________________

Full-time student?_____Yes _____No     If no, # of credits____________

Major Field of Study: __________________________________________________________________________
James M. Desiderio, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Name of Applicant: ______________________________________________________________________

Name of High School: ____________________________________________________________________

Planning to Attend: (Educational Institution) _________________________________________________

Majoring in: ___________________________________________________________________________

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
Please list extracurricular, community and religious activities in which you have participated
during the past 4 years. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th># of Years</th>
<th>Leadership Positions, Awards &amp; Recognition</th>
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WORK EXPERIENCE
Please list your paid work experience during the past four years, beginning with your most
recent position.

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<th>Employer</th>
<th>Nature of Work</th>
<th>Dates of Employment</th>
<th>Hrs/Wk</th>
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CERTIFICATION
I hereby affirm that the information provided on this form is accurate and complete to the best of
my knowledge.

_____________________________________________ ________________________
Applicant’s Signature      Date
Name of Applicant: __________________________________________________________
(Please PRINT your name.)

Have you applied for or received other scholarships or financial assistance?

Organization ________________________________ Amount applied for __________ Received __________

Organization ________________________________ Amount applied for __________ Received __________

Applicant’s signature __________________________________________ Date __________

Parent/Guardian/Spouse signature ______________________________ Date __________

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How did you hear about this scholarship? School __________ Newspaper __________

Web Site (give URL) __________________________ Other __________________________

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Scholarship Application DEADLINE is Friday, March 27, 2020.

Return application to:
Scholarship Processing
The Luzerne Foundation
34 South River Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Please contact The Luzerne Foundation at 570-822-2065 with any questions.