



**Howard College**  
**SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf**  
**Athletics Proposal**

Howard College – SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID), a community college for the deaf and hard of hearing, is seeking financial support for an athletic program. SWCID is a barrier free campus offering a full spectrum of higher educational opportunities for students including associate degrees and certificate programs that has American Sign Language as the primary method of communication. Residential facilities are offered on campus along with a wide variety of campus life activities including men’s and women’s athletics.

As a state supported institution within the Howard County Junior College District, SWCID does not generate income to support the institution through tuition and fees for students who are deaf and who are Texas residents. Only those students who are hearing or who live outside of Texas are charged for tuition and fees whereas room and board fees are charged to all students living on campus. With this limitation on tuition and fees income and restrictions on use of state funds, SWCID has very limited financial resources available to support the athletic program.

**What will be supported with donated funds?**

Donated funds will be used to support student athletic scholarships, sport equipment and supplies, travel money for teams, court renovations, and general overhead for the program.

**Which athletic programs will be supported with donated funds?**

The first priority for support will be a men’s basketball team and a women’s volleyball team. Other sports will be added in the future as interest is generated and funding is obtained.

**What sports or athletic programs are being played currently?**

The SWCID men’s basketball team has been playing “club ball” and has participated in the SouthWest Basketball Association for the Deaf’s (SWBAD) national tournament. After just one successful year within the tournament, SWCID will be serving as host to the SWBAD tournament in the spring of 2011.

**What is the benefit of having an athletic program on the SWCID campus?**

Deaf and hard of hearing students enjoy participating in athletic activities as much as any other student on any college campus. The presence of an athletic program encourages student pride and spirit on campus and adds an integral component to campus life.

**What is the fundraising goal and how do I make my contribution?**

The initial fundraising goal is \$75,000 with an annual ongoing support of \$70,000 per year. No donation is too small and all gifts are greatly appreciated. Individuals interested can make their tax deductible donation through the SWCID Foundation.

[www.howardcollege.edu/swcid](http://www.howardcollege.edu/swcid)

Thank you for your consideration and interest in supporting SWCID Rattler Athletics.