Database Assessment

A. Validation of Database System against Objectives
   • Database has ability to store and access information about each individual scholarship applicant, as outlined in section V, part a
   • System is capable of generating reports that provide an overview of all of the applications received, also as outlined in section V, part a
   • Met client/user requirements as described in section V, part b, with the exception of the creation of a binary field to indicate whether applicant has met all eligibility requirements
   • System has eliminated the need for a separate tracking spreadsheet while collocating application information in one place
   • Database offers efficient and uniform method of storing and accessing applicant information
   • System has capability to generate reports that will enhance scholarship decision-making process and will rank applicants based on their qualifications

B. Weaknesses & Limitations of Current Implementation
   • Can only associate one school with each application; this is in agreement with the business rules as written, but does not take into account the possibility of transfer students
   • It is not possible to toggle between multiple applications submitted by the same applicant
   • Navigation tabs at top of screen disappear after leaving first form
   • When navigating between student forms, user must choose associated student ID from dropdown list to link application to correct student
   • After adding a new school or bowling center, upon attempting to return to application form, system does not return to current application but instead creates a new one, leading to a loss of data integrity and the generation of unnecessary extra rows in the APPLICATIONS table
   • System does not currently support generation of report that displays one-line snapshot of each applicant’s data
   • Applicant search function has been created but currently is not functioning properly

C. Future Changes and Upgrades
   • When the Foundation eventually gains the ability to accept scholarship applications electronically, the Scholarship Application Database can be expanded to allow for the attachment of essay and recommendation letter files
   • Add print button to each report to enhance usability
   • Build filter to ensure that applicant’s county of origin is included in Foundation’s list of eligible counties
   • Create report to generate one-line snapshot of each applicant’s data
   • Address weaknesses and limitations mentioned above
   • Modify entity attributes to reflect required and optional fields
   • Once the Foundation has begun utilizing the database, make modifications as requested by client to improve usability