



2024 Scholarships

Linda Welch
 Scholarship Administrator
 Phone 724-981-5882
 Text 724-734-2250
linda@comm-foundation.org

Students & Parents

Funds underneath the Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern OH currently offer more than 240 scholarships throughout our region. These scholarship opportunities are an amazing way to invest in our community's next generation of leaders. Because of the generosity of our donors, in 2023 the Community Foundation was able to disburse just over 1 Million in scholarships.

Our donors strive to financially assist graduating high school seniors who will be continuing their education at the post-secondary level. Selection criteria can range from choosing students who are graduating from a specific high school, to a student with a love of music. Many times it comes down to a student exhibiting virtues that remind family members of a loved one.



FOLLOWING UP WITH REFERENCE PROVIDERS

Even though our automated system takes most of the responsibility off applicants, you still need to follow up with your reference providers to confirm that your letter was in deed submitted. Without a letter of reference, applicants risk not making it into certain scholarship opportunities for which they were otherwise qualified for.

SUBMISSION IS NOT THE FINAL STEP

It may seem counterintuitive, but there maybe further steps that need completed once the application has been submitted. Upon submission, a list of qualified scholarships opportunities will populate for you. These opportunities may require additional information such as another essay or an additional letter of reference. If you do not submit your initial application until close to March 1st, you may not have time to compete your additional requirements. We strongly encourage you to give yourself enough time and take advantage of the most opportunities available by submitting early.

Email is Essential

We've noticed that students aren't always the best at checking your emails, but it is a vitally important part of communication during every stage of our scholarship program. It is also important that you submit your application using a personal email, rather than your school issued account so that future communications are not interrupted after graduation. It is very important to follow these steps to ensure that you do not miss out on money for school.



IMPORTANT DATES

January 1 st	Applications Open
March 1 st	Applications Close
March 15 th	Reviews Begin
April 15 th	Reviews Closed

DO NOT TRY TO SIGN ON BEFORE JANUARY 1st

A LITTLE PREP GOES A LONG WAY

The first of the year can be a very hectic time for seniors as you plan for the next stage for your life. Doing a little preparation before January 1st can help the applicant process tremendously by decreasing the workload later and lessening the stress. We've found the best way to do this is to have students create a Student Resume.

The following information will be needed for our scholarship application and helpful for others as well:

- Community Service – Dates they participated, what they did, name and contact for their supervisor.
- Employment – Dates they were employed, what their duties were, name and contact for their supervisor.
- Transcripts – Name and email address of the person that submits transcripts
- Reference Providers – (**Ask permission to use them as a reference first**), names and emails of reference provider.
- Extra-curricular Activities – Only for High School, list all school activities and length of participation.
- Leadership Roles – Position held and the duration.
- Out of School Organizations - List organizations where they were active members, along with dates and how they are affiliated, example: church, unions, volunteer fire departments...
- Essay Prompts, all three must be answered - 1) Please explain why you chose your field of study. 2) How do you see yourself over the next four to five years, for example: will you live on campus, participate in collegiate sports/music, work part time, or perhaps pursue an internship. 3) Scholarships through the Community Foundation are made possible by our generous donors, all of whom desire to help local students defray the cost of furthering their education. If you are fortunate to win a Community Foundation Scholarship, how would you, in a charitable and unselfish manner, help others in your community.
- Student Aid Report – We will need a copy of the first page only, it's there that the EFC is listed.

Scholarships

Available for local graduating high school seniors



Apply for college scholarships beginning

January 1, 2024

by going to:

www.comm-foundation.org

This one online application can qualify applicants for more than 260 education scholarships administered by the Community Foundation!

Applications = Scholarship Dollars



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
OF WESTERN PA & EASTERN OH

Linda Welch
Scholarship Manager
7 West State St., Suite 301
Sharon, PA 16148
Phone 724-981-5882
Text 724-734-2250
linda@comm-foundation.org