



2025-2026 Scholarship Application Timeline

All applications for scholarships listed in XELLO have various deadlines, with most being due during the month of December. Be sure to consult individual scholarships for specific deadlines.

Before You Apply

- **You will need to complete a short student profile in XELLO.**

A Recommendation Timeline

- **By 10/15: Letters of Recommendation:** Think of a few adults who believe in you deeply. Some suggestions may be a teacher, coach, employer, mentor, pastor, rabbi, club sponsor... Kindly request they write you a heartfelt letter of recommendation on your behalf. You may want to provide them with your resume, so they have accurate documentation of your successes to include in their letter. Two to three separate letters are suggested.
- **For references:** Students should type the name, phone number and email address of the reference on a separate (Word or equivalent) document to include with all scholarship materials to be provided to the scholarship donor.
- **On-going, by 11/21: Service/Volunteer Hours:** Submit your service hours into FOCUS so you can share this answer if requested by a donor.
- **On-going, by 11/21: Paid Hours Worked:** Submit your paid employment hours worked into FOCUS so you can share this answer if requested by a donor.
- **SAT/ACT ASAP:** Register early if you have not already done so. Speak with your school counselor if you need more information.
- **When providing scores to donors:** When available, send a PDF of your test score report to the scholarship donor. If not available, type your scores in a separate (Word or equivalent) document to include with all scholarship materials to be provided to the scholarship donor.

FOR STANDARD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ONLY:

- **Download a PDF copy of the Standard Scholarship Application to your computer to complete (select "fill and sign").**
- **Complete by 11/1 and seek feedback from "experts" by 11/21: Essay #1:** Everyone has done something to better their school or community. Remember charity begins at home, and this is most certainly worthy of sharing as a contribution. Consult a trusted adult to help you determine how to identify your greatest contribution and how to write about it to exude confidence and significance
- **Complete by 11/1 and seek feedback from "experts" by 11/21: Essay #2:** This essay requires a bit more substance. Think about why you are truly seeking a post-secondary education. What are your long-term career goals? What makes your story stand out? Consult with people who know you well who can help you distinguish yourself as you answer this multi-part essay.

DEPENDS ON THE SCHOLARSHIP, READ REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY!

- **Collect by 11/21: Any special attachments as requested by donors; you may be asked to provide additional documents to include with your application materials.** (resume, transcript, IRS information, additional statement, score reports, industry certifications)



- **By 11/15, a headshot, if requested by the donor.** This should capture who you are, and though the photo can be candid, it should be appropriate/professional. Help the selection committee know your personality through this single photo.
- **By December 2025:** complete requirements for all scholarships matching your student profile in XELLO with a December deadline.

OTHER APPLICATIONS:

- Read each scholarship posting carefully and complete all requested documents.
- Be sure to use the scholarship donor's application. This may be a PDF or website link provided. You must use the application provided by the donor if they do NOT indicate they are using the Standard Scholarship Application. Failure to do so may eliminate you from consideration.
- Place close attention to how the scholarship donors want the applications submitted. One of three ways will be indicated; online through their websites, through email, or regular physical mail.
- If students have specific questions pertaining to scholarship, students should reach out to the contact listed on the scholarship posting for more information.

Local Scholarships - How to Apply

Seniors enrolled in the Martin County School District are to follow the steps below to apply for a scholarship listed in XELLO.

- 1) Log into your XELLO account through ClassLink and complete a short profile.
- 2) Review the criteria for all local scholarships listed in XELLO that you are matched with.
- 3) Complete your student profile in XELLO and complete all the scholarship application requirements for the scholarships you are interested in being considered for by the specified deadlines for each scholarship.
- 4) Selection committees will review your submitted applications for consideration upon receipt of your materials.
- 5) Any additional follow-up application criteria or interviews are at the scholarship donors' discretion.
- 6) Selected students will be invited to attend scholarship night during the spring semester.