



Community Foundation of Shelby County

General Scholarship Application Guide 2025

High School Senior Scholarship deadline is **February 13, 2025**
Skills Scholarship deadline is **March 13, 2025**

Step 1 – Create your scholarship account at –

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cfscscholarship>

OR in ‘Scholarships’ at www.commfoun.com

- Add an email address and create a password.
 - **DO NOT** use the email address provided by your high school, we can’t contact you after you graduate!

Step 2 – Complete the Preliminary Application

- This step asks questions that match you to available scholarships.
- Click “Yes” or “No” to the question that asks, “Do you wish to apply for scholarships that require your FAFSA SAI (Student Aid Index)?” If you click Yes, all possible scholarships are shown to you. If you click No, fewer scholarship are available to you.
- Your Applicant Dashboard shows a list of your potential scholarships.

Step 3 – Complete any additional information and click Submit for each Scholarship.

You will need the following.

- Transcript – Request this from your Guidance Counselor within the application website.
- A list of your school and community service activities.
- Letters of Recommendation (1-3 letters are required) Make sure you personally ask for a letter from teachers, club advisors, coaches, employers and any other non-family member.
- Cost of attendance - How much it will cost for you to attend college? This information is available in the Admissions or Financial Aid sections of your college’s website. All scholarships require the recipient attend an accredited college, university, or trade or technical school.

Make sure all of your applications are complete and submitted before the deadline. Nothing will be accepted after the deadline.

FAFSA

You will be eligible for more scholarships if you complete the FAFSA.

- Start the process by going to this link - <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Other benefits of completing the FAFSA application

- You may receive Federal Pell Grants and Financial Aid and Scholarships through your college.
- You may qualify for Federal Student Loans, which have better interest rates.
- You may be eligible for Forgivable Student Loans.

Tips for Writing a Scholarship Personal Statement

Before you start filling out your scholarship application, you should spend some time thinking about how to write a scholarship personal statement that expresses who you are and why you deserve to receive a scholarship.

Your personal statement should be a minimum of 200 words and no more than 500. To get you started, consider the following:

1. What are your strongest personality traits that make you an ideal candidate for a scholarship?
2. Does any attribute, quality, or skill distinguish you from everyone else?
3. What are your major accomplishments, and why do you consider them accomplishments?
4. What was the most difficult time in your life, and why? How did you overcome it?
5. What have you done outside of the school that demonstrates qualities of an ideal candidate?
6. What are your most important extracurricular or community activities? What made you join these activities?
7. Why did you choose your area of study?
8. What are your career aspirations?
9. What are your dreams of the future?
10. How will the scholarship help you achieve your personal goals?
11. What has compelled you to attend your choice of school?

Personal Statement

Your personal statement should be well structured and written to make you stand out from the rest of the applicants. The statement should present a picture of you as a person, a student and a potential scholarship recipient. It is an opportunity to share your story. Here are suggestions for organizing your statement in four simple paragraphs:

INTRODUCTION

First Paragraph

Grab your reader's attention with an eye-catching opening. Share who you are, where you are from, and your family background. **State any special personal or family circumstances affecting your need for financial assistance.**

BODY

Second Paragraph

Explain why are you the best candidate for the scholarship? What have you done so far? This is where you begin to support your case. Why did you choose to attend LaGuardia? What is your major? How did you choose your major? What are your positive qualities, accomplishments, work experience, internships, volunteer work, leadership experience, extracurricular activities, personal problems you have overcome, etc.?

Third Paragraph

Connect your goals with the opportunities receiving the scholarship will provide. What are your future plans? Be specific about your plans for pursuing your goals. Where do you plan to transfer? What is the highest degree that you plan to achieve? i.e. Associate, Bachelors, Masters, Ph.D. What are your career goals? How do you plan to use your education to achieve your career goals? Explain the importance of your major in today's society.

CONCLUSION

Fourth Paragraph

This is your last chance to impress and persuade the reader. What impact would the scholarship have on your education and your future? Recap why you are a good candidate to receive the scholarship.

Writing tips

1. Think before you write. Brainstorm and generate some good ideas for your personal statement. Create an outline of what you would like your statement to discuss.
2. Read through your statement multiple times, make revisions and edit unnecessary words and irrelevant details.
 - Avoid empty words and phrases like "really," "basically," "goals," and dreams."
3. Use active verbs, not passive.
 - My love of math *was fostered* by my third grade teacher. [Passive]
 - My third grade teacher *fostered* my love of science. [Active]
4. Watch for misspellings, grammatical errors and typos. Pay close attention to sentence structure, punctuation and word choice.
 - Leave plenty of time to proofread. Put your statement aside for a few days, and then come back and look at it with fresh eyes.

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Shelby County
2025 Scholarships Available
For Jackson Center High School Seniors

February 13, 2025 Application Deadline

Robert E. Grubbs Foundation Scholarship

- ◆ Graduating senior attending adult education or a trade school or pursuing a two-year or four-year degree.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Financial need, academic ability, community and school service and recommendations.
- ◆ One \$1,000 scholarship

Additional Multi-District, Major-specific and Miscellaneous Scholarships

Adam E. Huelskamp Scholarship

- ◆ Must reside in the school districts of Shelby, Auglaize or Mercer County, Ohio.
- ◆ 4H or FFA member for a minimum of 4 years combined and must be participating in their final year of eligibility.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Demonstrated community and school service, financial need, employment history, and an additional essay of no less than 100 words and no more than 200 words on a designated topic.
- ◆ One \$1,000 scholarship

Elaine Laughlin Scholarship

- ◆ Shelby County residents who are high school seniors maintaining a high school GPA of no less than 3.6.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Financial need, academic ability, demonstrated community and school service, and recommendations.
- ◆ Two \$1,000 scholarships

Emerson & Janet Koenig Family Scholarship

- ◆ Shelby County graduating senior pursuing an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree in an agricultural science field. Student must have maintained a GPA of at least 2.5. Preference given to Botkins High School seniors, if there are no eligible applicants from Botkins High School, then high school seniors who reside in the school districts of Shelby County, Ohio shall be eligible.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Participation in extracurricular activities, volunteer in community or non-profit settings, and recommendations.

One \$2,000 renewable for up to 3 years at increasing amounts

Harry Emley and Mary Joslin Bennett Scholarship

- ◆ A high school senior who resides in and attends a school within Shelby County and who wishes to study an agriculture major. (Examples: Ag Education, Ag Business, Agronomy, Animal Science, Horticulture, etc.)
- ◆ Selection based upon: Academic achievement, financial need, community and school service, and recommendations.
- ◆ One \$500 scholarship

Herbert H. & Antoinette V. Schlater Scholarship

- ◆ A parent must be employed by either Sidney Electric Co. or Area Energy & Electric for a minimum of two years prior to January 1, 2025.
- ◆ Preference is given to a graduating high school senior; however, an older student may apply. Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0. This requirement will not apply if the applicant has not attended high school or a post-secondary college within the last two years. Must be enrolling in adult education, a trade school or pursuing a two-year or four-year degree.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Financial need; academic ability; community, religious, and school service; recommendations.
- ◆ One \$2,500 to a Sidney Electric Co. employee's child and one \$2,500 scholarship to an Area Energy & Electric employee's child

IUTIS Club Scholarship

- ◆ A Shelby County resident who played high school baseball for a minimum of three years and is enrolling in an accredited adult educational program, trade school, college or university in the coming year.
- ◆ Selection based, in order of priority: Academic ability, community and school service, and recommendations. Preference given to students who participated in the IUTIS Softball Program.
- ◆ **Two \$500 scholarships**

James P. Humphrey, Black Achievers Scholarship

- ◆ Shelby County residents who are of African-American descent and a graduating senior at a Shelby County High School maintaining a high school GPA of no less than 2.0.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Financial need, academic ability, demonstrated community and school service, and recommendations, and an interview.
- ◆ **Awards Varies**

Ken & Mary Beth Monnier Engineering Scholarship

- ◆ Shelby County high school senior with a GPA of no less than 3.0, who is pursuing an ABET accredited Bachelor's Degree in Engineering.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Demonstrated community and school service, academic ability, financial need, and recommendations.
- ◆ **Two \$2,000 scholarships**

Layton Family Foundation Scholarship

- ◆ **Shelby County resident who is a U.S. citizen and is a senior attending a high school in Shelby County.**
- ◆ Applicants must be a first generation student (*neither parent has a bachelor's degree or higher*), maintains a high school GPA not less than 2.5 and will be enrolling as a full-time student at a trade school, college or university in the coming year.
- ◆ Selection based, in order of priority: Academic ability and an additional essay on a designated topic, and recommendations.
- ◆ **One \$1,200 scholarship**

Lola Detrick Carmony Scholarship - No application. School turns in the names of students.

- ◆ Valedictorians of high schools in Shelby County, given on a rotating basis.
- ◆ Each school receives \$500 for the valedictorian that is named at the school.
- ◆ Award based on ACT score for schools with more than one valedictorian.
- ◆ Each year 5 of the 10 schools in Shelby County receive this scholarship.
- ◆ In even-numbered years - Anna, Botkins, Christian Academy, Fairlawn, and Ft. Loramie.
- ◆ In odd-numbered year – Hardin Houston, Jackson Center, Lehman Catholic, Russia, and Sidney.

McColloch-Baker Insurance Agency Scholarship - UVCC

- ◆ GPA of at least 3.0 and pursuing an Associate's or Bachelor's degree.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Financial need, academic ability, community and school service, and recommendations
- ◆ **One \$1,000 scholarship**

Shelby County Youth Soccer Scholarship

- ◆ High school seniors who have been involved as a player, referee, and/or coach for a minimum of four years for a team within either Shelby County Youth Soccer, Shelby County Alliance, Western Ohio United or Ohio Extreme Soccer Club South.
- ◆ GPA of 2.5 and are enrolling in an accredited trade school, technical school, college or university.
- ◆ Selection based, in order of priority: Soccer involvement as a player, referee, and/or coach, demonstrated passion for soccer, a recommendation letter from a soccer coach or soccer mentor is **REQUIRED**, and an additional essay of no less than 100 words and no more than 200 words on a designated topic.
- ◆ **Two \$1,000 scholarships – One to a male applicant and one to a female applicant.**

Sidney Moose Lodge 568 Scholarship Application deadline: **February 15, 2025**

- ◆ Shelby County high school senior who has a parent or guardian that is a current member of the Loyal Order of Moose, Sidney Lodge 568 and are enrolling in an accredited technical or trade school, or are pursuing and Associate's or Bachelor's degree.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Demonstrated community and school service, demonstrated leadership skills, recommendations and academic ability.
- ◆ **One \$1,000 scholarship**

Vera DoLean Ginn Kiwanis Scholarship

- ◆ A Shelby County resident pursuing a career in elementary education. Must have a high school or college GPA of no less than 3.5 and are pursuing a certificate or an Associate's, Bachelor's or Master's degree.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Intent to pursue the field of elementary education, financial need, academic ability, community and school service, recommendations.
- ◆ **Two \$1,000 scholarships**

William and Patsy Zorn Veterans Scholarship

- ◆ **Public** high school seniors in Shelby County, Ohio who will attend a four-year college or university (excluding Wright State University) and have a GPA of no less than 3.5.
- ◆ Must have a parent, step-parent, grandparent, full or half-sibling who is active military or a veteran of the US military, with a preference to those related to a member of the US Air Force.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Academic ability, demonstrated community and school service, and recommendations.
- ◆ **One \$1,300 scholarship**

Skills Scholarships – March 13, 2025 Deadline

Bob Sargeant Skills Scholarship

- ◆ Adults or graduating seniors who reside Shelby County, Ohio or in the School Districts of Shelby County, Ohio, who are enrolling in an accredited adult educational program or trade school or pursuing an Associate's Degree shall be eligible to apply.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Demonstrated interest and passion for a specific career path, demonstrated work experience, demonstrated community or school service and recommendations.
- ◆ **One \$2,000 scholarship**

Donald E. and M. Jane Kemp Trade School Scholarship

- ◆ Adults or graduating seniors who reside Shelby County, Ohio or in the School Districts of Shelby County, Ohio, who are enrolling in an accredited adult educational program or trade school or pursuing an Associate's Degree shall be eligible to apply.
- ◆ Selection based upon (in order of priority): Demonstrated interest and passion for a specific career path, demonstrated work experience, demonstrated community or school service and recommendations.
- ◆ **Four \$3,500 scholarships**

Tom and Sandy Shoemaker Skills Scholarship

- ◆ Adults or graduating seniors who reside in Shelby County, Ohio or in the School Districts of Shelby County, Ohio, who are enrolling in an accredited adult educational program or trade school or pursuing an Associate's Degree shall be eligible to apply.
- ◆ Selection based upon: Demonstrated interest and passion for a specific career path, demonstrated work experience, demonstrated community or school service and recommendations.
- ◆ **One \$1,000 scholarship**

Please note: The information on these sheets is intended to briefly inform about available scholarships and is not a complete explanation of the requirements of individual scholarships. Award amounts, the number of available scholarships and application deadlines are subject to change. We apologize for any errors in the above information.

Please contact Juli Smith, Scholarships & Grants Manager, at jsmith@commfoun.com with any questions.

