

Scholarships Overview

APPLY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 | DUE MARCH 1, 2026 @ 5:00PM

HOW TO APPLY:

- Apply online at etcf.org/scholarships/available-scholarships/
- Click on the "Let's get started" button
- Create an account and register with our system (be sure to save your log on information)
- Once you've created an account, complete the Universal Application
- After you submit the common application, you will be taken to a confirmation page that will list the scholarship opportunities you are eligible to apply for.
- If an individual scholarship requires additional information it will be shown on this confirmation page.
- We encourage you to apply for all the scholarships you are eligible for.

DOCUMENTS YOU WILL NEED FOR THE APPLICATION INCLUDE:

- Transcript with grades through the Fall 2025 semester (*this should include the fall grades from your senior year*).
- ACT and/or SAT scores - if required by your college or university or specific scholarship
- Upload two (2) references - (*one (1) reference **MUST** have had in classroom experience with you*)
- List of extracurricular and community service activities including hours/week/year involved
- FAFSA Submission Summary information *provided **MUST** include your full name & Student Aid Index (SAI)*

ESSAY TIPS:

- Describe your college and career plans in as much detail as possible. Show you are a good investment! If your major is undecided, explain how you will make the decision to choose a major.
- Write in your own voice. Choose a tone as if you are speaking to a trusted adult.
- Stand out by surprising & delighting the reviewer.

ESSAY QUESTIONS YOU WILL BE ASKED:

FUTURE PLANS ESSAY: Describe your educational plans and career goals. What influenced those choices? Why is a college education important to you? Why did you choose the college or university you are planning on attending? Why did you choose the major you are planning to pursue?

CHARACTER ESSAY: Choose one of the following to write about. 1) Describe a time in your life that has shaped who you are as a person. OR 2) Tell us about a time you failed and what you learned from the situation.

OPTIONAL ESSAY: Tell us anything else you would like the scholarship committee to know about you.



Questions? Contact scholarships@etcf.org
www.etcf.org | 903.533.0208

TIMELINE TO APPLY

1

Start a record of your extracurricular activities, clubs, teams, and community involvement and volunteering. Include EVERYTHING!



2

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) early. The application will open in October.

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid>

3

Start your scholarship application early! Application opens December 2025/ January 2026.



4

Write and review your essays. Have a friend, parent or teacher review and edit them for you.



5

Mark your calendar! Review, finalize and submit your application before the March 1st deadline.

Make sure all supporting documents are also submitted.



REMINDERS:

- You will need one teacher reference that has had in classroom experience with you. Submit name and email address, a request will be sent to them.
- You will need to upload an unofficial transcript that includes your grades from the fall semester of your senior year (fall 2025).
- You will need your FAFSA information.
- You will not be able to edit or make changes after you submit your application. Make sure that everything is entered corrected before you submit.