



2026 SCHOLARSHIP INSTRUCTIONS

If you are a student interested in pursuing higher education in viticulture, enology, and future wine-related studies, we want to help get you there!

The Foundation is home to several scholarships created by and on behalf of Washington wine industry leaders – because they believe in you, the future of our industry. This year, those scholarships include:

- Albert Don Memorial Scholarship
- Alliance of Women in Washington Wine Scholarship
- Foundation Scholarship(s)
- George & Susan Carter Scholarship
- Horse Heaven Hills Scholarships
- Walter J. Clore Scholarship

You may qualify for one or multiple scholarships. Either way, you only need to submit one application. Completed applications are reviewed by a Scholarship Committee, who makes a recommendation to the Foundation Board of Directors on awards.

An application is considered complete when all items have been submitted by the scholarship deadline. Follow these instructions for the greatest success in your application process.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Tuesday, APRIL 14, 2026

Mark your calendar and make sure you have plenty of time to submit an application, required letters, and school transcripts on or before the application deadline. Incomplete applications (missing required information) will not be considered for any scholarships.

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SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFICATIONS:

<https://washingtonwinefoundation.org/scholarships/>

Each scholarship has a unique set of qualifications and some give preference to applicants that meet specific criteria. Review the qualifications to know which scholarships you should apply for, and give yourself time to submit additional information that may qualify your application for preferential treatment.

Recipients are selected without regard to race, sex, color, ethnic origin, religious belief, marital status, or physical handicap.



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APPLICATION:

<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/107868-Washington-Wine-Industry-Foundation>

Before you begin filling out the application, we recommend gathering some information in advance, including:

- ☐ Your overall college GPA, if you are enrolled in college
- ☐ Your overall high school GPA, if you are not yet enrolled in college
- ☐ Your extracurricular activities, awards, work experience, leadership roles, and/or community involvement – especially those that relate to the wine industry and/or your intended area of study
- ☐ Your estimated expenses (tuition, books, student fees, room & board, and child care) for the 2026-2027 school year
- ☐ An estimate of other expected fund contributions toward your estimated 2026-2027 school expenses
- ☐ 250-300-word essay as a letter to a future you. What do you want this version of you to know? Are there values, advice or goals you want them to remember? How do you see the world and you in it at this point in the future?

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LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Letters of recommendation should provide the Scholarship Committee with insight into your character, values, and unique attributes. Two (2) letters are required. The information included in letters of recommendation is confidential for the Foundation Scholarship Committee's use in scoring applicants only.

Please request letters from people who know you well and can add to what we've learned about you through your application. Examples of appropriate letter writers are teachers, mentors, volunteer supervisors, employers, etc. It is your responsibility to make sure we have received your letters of recommendation.

Each letter must:

1. Include the date written
2. Address the Foundation Scholarship Committee
3. Name of the scholarship applicant
4. Identify the applicant's affiliation with you (teacher, advisor, employer, etc.)
5. Be signed by the writer

Recommendation letters will be uploaded by your recommenders directly onto your scholarship application.

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OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION

The following are also required to complete your application:

- ☐ Your official high school transcripts, if you are a freshman or sophomore in college/university
- ☐ Your official college transcripts, including current quarter/semester if you will be a junior, senior, or graduate student in college/university

Some scholarships give preference (not required) to students that demonstrate financial need, acceptance into a wine/grape industry related degree program, or parents employed in the Washington wine industry. If applicable, please provide:

- ☐ Letter of acceptance into wine/grape industry related degree program from department director
- ☐ A letter from your parent's employer
 - ↳ Includes the employer's name and contact information
 - ↳ Includes your parent's name, position, and length of employment with the company

All transcripts and letters will be able to be uploaded directly onto your scholarship application.

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NOW WHAT?

Congratulations, you've completed your scholarship application! Feel free to contact Jenn@washingtonwinefoundation.org if you have any further questions or want to confirm we have received your information.

Recipients are expected to maintain good academic standing and meet specific scholarship criteria throughout the award period. Upon request, recipients are required to provide confirmation of such to Foundation staff.

Applicants should be notified in June, 2026, on the final award determination.

Payment of funds requires enrollment in the major or accepted area in the college or university stated in your application. Funds will be paid from the Washington Wine Industry Foundation to the educational institution which the student is or will be attending.