



## First U.S. 2026 Scholarship Guidelines

The following guidelines will apply to the application and awarding of one (1) \$2,500, two (2) \$1,000, and one (1) \$500 scholarships for current high school students bound for college in the fall of 2026 or for students currently enrolled at a college, university or career college who will continue to be enrolled in the fall of 2026.

### **PLEASE READ ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY.**

**Applications that are submitted late, incomplete, or accompanied by unofficial transcripts will not be considered.**

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

The applicant must:

1. Be a First U.S. member, or dependent of a member\* in good standing.
2. Be a graduating high school student or continuing college student.
3. **Maintain a GPA of at least 3.0** (on 4.0 scale).

#### **Application Requirements**

1. A completed **Scholarship Application**.
2. A **Personal Statement Essay** answering the following questions: (750 words or less).
  - a. What life experiences or achievements have helped you get to this point in life?
  - b. What are your extracurricular activities? What types of leadership positions have you held?
  - c. What financial resources will you be relying on to pay for college? (e.g. family support, student loans, grants, scholarships, part time work, etc.)
  - d. How will you maximize the opportunities of higher education?
  - e. How will you apply what you learn in college to help your community?
3. **Certified Transcripts**. Submit applicable transcripts for academic work completed as of Fall 2025. Please provide one of the following.
  - a. Certified transcripts in an un-opened envelope presented with the essay and application before the deadline.
  - b. Electronic transcripts - most transcripts can be obtained electronically at [parchment.com](https://parchment.com). Please have them email transcripts directly to [marketinggroup@firstus.org](mailto:marketinggroup@firstus.org) before the deadline.

#### **Award Criteria**

1. Acceptance into an accredited community college, career college or four-year college or university for the 2026-2027 academic year.
2. Full-time enrollment of **12 or more credits** or units.
3. Applications will be reviewed by a committee, and the scholarships will be awarded based on these categories:
  - a. GPA.
  - b. Essay content

#### **Timelines**

1. Scholarship Applications will be available at any First U.S. Branch location or at [firstus.org](http://firstus.org).
2. Completed applications must be received at the credit union by close of business on March 31. 2026.

#### **DEADLINE: Must be received by March 31, 2026**

Winners will be contacted by phone or email the week of May 11, 2026. If the winner doesn't respond by Friday May 15th, 2026, the scholarship will be forfeited to the next qualified candidate.

\*Student or parent/guardian must be a First U.S. member in good standing. Student recipients who are not already First U.S. members must open a First U.S. membership as the primary account holder before the scholarship funds are disbursed.



580 University Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825  
(800) 556-6768

## First U.S. Scholarship Application

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Applications must be received at First U.S. Community Credit Union by **Tuesday, March 31, 2026**. You must be a graduating high school senior or currently enrolled college student in the 2026-2027 school year. Applications will not be returned and will become the property of First U.S. First U.S. officers, employees and their families are not eligible. The winning entries will be chosen at the discretion of First U.S. staff. Illegible entries may be disqualified. Winners will be notified by phone or and agree to have their names and photos published in First U.S. promotional materials. If the winner doesn't respond by Friday May 15th, 2026, the scholarship will be forfeited to the next qualified candidate.

#### Please attach the following to this application:

1. **A Personal Statement Essay** answering the following questions: (750 words or less).
  - a. What life experiences or achievements have helped you get to this point in life?
  - c. What are your extracurricular activities? What types of leadership positions have you held?
  - d. What financial resources will you be relying on to pay for college? (e.g. family support, student loans, grants, scholarships, part time work, etc.)
  - e. How will you maximize the opportunities of higher education?
  - f. How will you apply what you learn in college to help your community?
2. **Certified Transcripts**. Submit applicable transcripts for academic work completed as of Fall 2025. Please provide one of the following.
  - a. Certified transcripts in an un-opened envelope presented with the essay and application before the deadline.
  - b. Electronic transcripts - most transcripts can be obtained electronically at [parchment.com](http://parchment.com). Please have them email transcripts directly to [marketinggroup@firstus.org](mailto:marketinggroup@firstus.org) before the deadline.

#### Where to mail your application:

First U.S. Community Credit Union, Student Scholarships, 580 University Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825.  
Attention: Marketing.

#### Where to personally deliver your application:

Any branch of First U.S. Community Credit Union

##### Auburn

424 Grass Valley Highway  
Auburn, CA 95603

##### Gold River

11220 Gold Express Dr., #405  
Gold River, CA 95670

##### Grass Valley

2090 Nevada City Highway  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

**Sacramento – Arden/Arcade**  
2150 Watt Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95825

##### Rocklin

6843 Lonetree Blvd., Suite 101  
Rocklin, CA 95765

Please initial here.

Student or parent/guardian must be a First U.S. member in good standing. Student recipients who are not already First U.S. members must open a First U.S. membership as the primary account holder before the scholarship funds are disbursed.

**CONTACT INFORMATION (All fields are required)**

Applicant's name (First, Middle, Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ First U.S. Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's or guardian's name (if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ First U.S. Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL INFORMATION**

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you currently enrolled in advanced placement classes? YES / NO. If yes, please list weighted GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

High school (if currently attending): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

Current (or planned) college or university name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated major: \_\_\_\_\_