

Due Date: April 1, 2026

# 2026 Application



## **HIGHWAY HERO** HONOREE SCHOLARSHIP

*Established by*

**HIGHWAY CROSSROADS**  
CREDIT UNION

The logo for Highway Crossroads Credit Union features the company name in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the name is a graphic element consisting of a road sign on a post. The sign has four arms pointing outwards with the words 'Service', 'Integrity', 'Results', and 'Teamwork'. Below the road sign graphic, there is a stylized road or path line that curves upwards and to the right.



# 2026 Scholarship Application

## HIGHWAY HERO HONOREE SCHOLARSHIP



Highway Crossroads Credit Union is committed to helping our members: from childhood to adulthood, we are here for you. In an effort to align with our mission, the Highway Hero Honoree Scholarship Fund has been established for graduating high school seniors. We believe these scholarships are a wise investment in the future – yours and ours, as you are the leaders of our tomorrow.

The Highway Hero Honoree Scholarship will honor our young members who demonstrate balance with community involvement and leadership qualities, while maintaining academic success. The number of scholarships and their respective values will be determined as foundation funding will allow.

Scholarship recipients will be announced and presented to the our Credit Union membership and communities at our Annual Business Meeting.

### Eligibility

1. Applicant must be a Highway Crossroads Credit Union member in good standing and maintain such membership status throughout the duration of the award for continued renewable status. A member in good standing is defined as one with an active checking account and no loan delinquencies. Membership is open to any of the following individuals:
  - Anyone who lives or works in the following counties: Cape Girardeau, New Madrid, Mississippi, Scott or Stoddard Counties of Missouri.
  - Full-time employees of the Southeast District of the Missouri Department of Transportation or Troop E of the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) or retirees that have retired while actively employed.
  - Immediate family members, of existing Highway Crossroads members (parents, spouse, children, siblings, grandchildren, grandparents, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, first cousin or legal guardian). Also included are step, in-law and legally adoptive relationships.
2. Applicant must be a high school senior during the 2025-2026 school year.
3. Applicant must fully complete the Scholarship Application and return it to HCCU with all appropriate supporting documents by the deadline, **April 1, 2026** for the application to be considered by the committee.
4. Applicant must have the intent to be enrolled full-time, in the fall to college, junior college, university, trade school, vocational school or a reputable school as determined by the Board of Directors.
5. Applicant, if selected as a scholarship recipient, must agree to attend HCCU Annual Meeting for recognition.
6. Applicant and his/her parent or guardian must sign the Certification and Release Authorization on the last page of the application form.

### How to Apply

1. Read all instructions completely and thoroughly.
2. Fill out the application and submit the following supporting documents.
  - An official **Academic Profile** with copy of transcript completed by your School Counselor
  - Two completed **Letters of Recommendation** prepared by a school official who is close to the applicant through class work or extracurricular activities OR by an employer/supervisor of the applicant from a job or community activity. (Can not be from a relative of the applicant.)
  - A maximum of two-page typed essay which answers the essay question found in the following pages of the application.
3. Submit the completed, typed application and required documents to Highway Crossroads Credit Union by email to: [info@highwayhero.org](mailto:info@highwayhero.org) or you may hand deliver or mail the application to:

### Highway Hero Scholarship

c/o Highway Crossroads Credit Union  
741 York Drive  
Sikeston, MO 63801



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## Official Rules

1. The number of annual scholarships and the value of each scholarship is contingent upon foundation funding availability and Board of Directors discretion each academic year.
2. Highway Hero Honoree Scholarships are renewable to a maximum of eight (8) semesters. Scholarship recipients will be required to complete a **Renewal Scholarship Form** and submit documents before scholarship awards will be disbursed after each semester.
  - \* Copy of the immediate preceding semester grades (min. of 12 credit hours earned), with GPA of 2.7 or higher attained.
  - \* Official copy of your college schedule (min. of 12 credit hours) for upcoming semester.

The deadline for the **Renewal Scholarship Form along with required documents for disbursement are as follows:**

Fall semester is August 16th	Spring semester is January 5th
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3. To help ensure unbiased judging of the scholarship essays, all entries should be anonymous of author. Any reference within the essay which might identify its author will be redacted. This includes the name of the school in which applicant is attending.
4. Highway Hero has partnered with Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship Foundation Committee to conduct the scholarship recipient selection processing. The **Personal Information** section and the applicants name on the essay will be removed before presentation to the scholarship committee. The packets to be distributed to SEMO Scholarship Foundation Committee will be labeled as "Student A", "Student B" etc. For scholarship consideration, a minimum point total must be reached; the students with the highest totals are then awarded the scholarships. The committee will score each application and essay using a predefined rubric for consistency in the selection process.
5. Scholarship awards will be disbursed upon each recipient completing the **Award Letter** requirements. Scholarship funding may be used for any incidental fees for post-secondary education; including, but not limited to: tuition, books, meal plans, housing and placement testing. Scholarship disbursements will be made payable to the post-secondary institution, school and/or program for deposit into the student's account or they may be credited to the recipients personal HCCU checking account.
6. All scholarship requirements are subject to any policy changes as governed by the Board of Directors.

## Your Application Will Not Be Considered If It Is:

- **Late** – Application and supporting documents must be **received by April 1, 2026**.
- **If it is handwritten - application and essay MUST BE TYPED**.
- **Incomplete** – No applications will be accepted without ALL supporting documents. (*Academic Profile is the only exception to this, as it must be submitted by school administration.*) **Incomplete applications will be filed with no action taken.**
- **Unqualified** – Applicants must meet ALL of the eligibility requirements (see above).

## Questions?

For more information, please contact [info@highwayhero.org](mailto:info@highwayhero.org) or visit our website at [www.highwayhero.org](http://www.highwayhero.org).



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## PERSONAL INFORMATION



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Name First  M.I.  Last

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Address

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City/State  ZIP  Phone Number

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Email Address

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Applicant's Credit Union Account Number (Applicant must be a member in good standing.)

## Current School Enrollment

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Current School  Anticipated Graduation Date

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GPA  ACT score (if applicable)  SAT score (if applicable)

## PART TWO

### Educational Plans

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Name of College or Post-Secondary School You Plan to Attend

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Proposed Field of Study

**What is your ideal job once you complete your education? Why?**



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### PART THREE

In the chart below, please list any important school or community activities and organizations with which you were involved. In the contributions column, include your level of participation and any leadership roles; or offer an explanation for lack of participation in activities. Please only list your top 7 activities.

	Activity Name	Dates of Service	Contributions
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

**Which of these activities was most important to you? Explain why:**



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List any honors or awards you have received:



## ESSAY SECTION

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer one of the below questions in an essay. The essay should be a minimum length of one page, single spaced using Times New Roman 12pt font. Your essay must be typed to be considered.

Include your name in the bottom right hand corner. (Your name will be removed before submission to our Scholarship Committee)

Include Essay Question Selection (A, B or C) in the top right hand corner.

Please check the box:  I have completed the essay without any assistance from others.

Essay Question Options:

- A) Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- B) Reflect on a time when you or someone you observed had to make a choice about whether or not to act with integrity and honesty.
- C) Imagine you were just awarded a research grant for a project of your choice. What are you researching and why?

## CERTIFICATION

I certify all information provided on this application and all supporting documents are accurate and complete. I understand any misleading or false information will result in my application being disqualified. As a scholarship applicant, I give full consent for the use of my name and likeness to be used for promotional and publicity purposes. I understand my essay becomes the property of Highway Hero Scholarship Foundation/Highway Crossroads Credit Union and the decision of the Scholarship Committee is final.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Internal Use Only

Application

Academic Profile

Transcript

Letter of Recommendation  
 Letter of Recommendation

Essay

Photo for Website Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Application Number \_\_\_\_\_