



2026 College Scholarship Program

The Rochester Chapter of New York Credit Union Association will be awarding scholarship funds to outstanding high school seniors that are members of participating Rochester Chapter Credit Unions.

Eligibility

Each applicant must have an account (titled in the applicant's name) and be a member in good standing of a participating credit union. All applicants must be high school seniors for the 2025/2026 school year, with plans to attend a 2 or 4 year accredited college or university for the 2026/2027 school year.

Selection Process

The winners will be selected by an independent panel of judges responsible for evaluating and ranking applications received within three separate categories – Academic Performance, Community Involvement and an Essay.

Applicants with an outstanding record for service to their communities may be chosen as a recipient of the Sam Gaudino Service Scholarship Award. While this winner may not outscore other applicants in the three categories listed above, they will have documented extraordinary contributions within their community – an important characteristic that defines credit unions, their cooperative structure and their roots as volunteer-driven organizations.

Application Process

Please complete the scholarship application in full and ensure that each page you submit includes your full name. Include your one-page essay and a copy of your Activities/Extracurricular/Community Service Resume. Each page must be one-sided for scanning purposes. Failure to complete the application and include all applicable attachments as instructed will result in disqualification.

You may mail applications to:

**The Summit FCU
Attn: Dawn Kellogg, Scholarship Committee
100 Marina Drive,
Rochester, NY 14626**

You may email* applications to:

rochestercuscholarship@gmail.com

*Sections 1, 2 and 3 to be provided by the student

*Section 4 must be provided by the school

Applications must be post-marked or emailed on or before February 28, 2026.

Scholarship winners only will be notified on or before May 1, 2026.

Remember – incomplete submissions will be disqualified.

Submission Checklist

Applicants must complete all information and provide requested documentation. Please type or print clearly using blue or black ink. *Before you submit your application, please confirm the following list:*

- ☐ Part 1. Applicant information - All information is completed.
- ☐ Part 2. Activities/Extracurricular/Community Service Resume is single-sided and full name is included on each page.
- ☐ Part 3. Essay meets all the requirements listed in Part 3.
- ☐ Part 4. Provide guidance counselor with form to submit transcript. **This information must be provided by the school via mail or email.**

***Please send all documents together in PDF format. Other formats will not be accepted.**

Part 1: Applicant Information

Applicants must complete all information and provide requested documentation. Please type or print clearly using blue or black ink.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **Parent/Guardian Number** _____

Student's Email _____ **Parent/Guardian Email** _____

High School _____ **Graduation Date** _____

CU Name _____ **Student CU Acct #** _____

Certification and Release Authorization

I certify this information is true, complete and accurate. I also authorize release of information to confirm and/or verify this application. If I am awarded a scholarship, the Rochester Chapter of the New York Credit Union Association may use my name and/or photo for publicity purposes.

Student's Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

(Student & Parent/Guardian must sign application to qualify)

Part 1 *(continued)*: **Applicant Information**

Name _____

High School _____ **Credit Union** _____

Name(s) of colleges or universities were you have applied: Please indicate if you have been accepted yet.

Career and educational goals

Applicant Information

Name _____

High School _____ Credit Union _____

Part 2: Extracurricular and Community Service Activities

Please include a one-sided Activities/Extracurricular/Community Service Resume in PDF format with your application. Please list any activities you have participated in during your four years of high school including but not limited to clubs, sports, social, school based, religious or community organizations, volunteer work, paid employment positions, etc. Additionally, please include any honors, awards, or recognitions you have received. Be sure to note the name of the award and the year received.

Part 3: Essay

Essay Requirements:

- One page only
- Single sided 8 ½" x 11" paper
- Typed, double-spaced, 12 point font
- PDF format
- Include your full name in the bottom right hand corner of the essay response
- Organization, grammar, punctuation and creativity will be considered in the scoring for this section
- Essay must be included with application

For your essay, please respond to the following:

The overall credit union philosophy is "People Helping People." In your application process, you have provided us with an Activities/Extracurricular/Community Service Resume. From your resume, please choose one volunteer experience that you found to be your most rewarding or that provided the greatest benefit to the recipient(s). Then, please describe how this experience personally affected you and how it relates to "People Helping People."

**Thank you for participating in the Rochester Chapter of the New York Credit Union Association
College Scholarship Program!**



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Part 4: High School Transcript (required)

Please detach this page and give to your guidance counselor.

Student's Name _____ Date _____

High School _____

Dear Counselor:

The above-named student is applying for a college scholarship from the Rochester Chapter of the New York Credit Union Association. Each applicant is required to submit an official copy of their high school transcript (signed, dated and sealed if mailed by the student). We appreciate your assistance in providing this information **prior to the application deadline of February 28, 2026.**

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of your student.

Sincerely,

Communication Council

Rochester Chapter of the New York Credit Union Association

Please return all information to the scholarship applicant in a sealed envelope upon completion or email to **chapterscholarship@gmail.com**.

If you are required to mail transcript information, please send it to:

**The Summit FCU
Attn: Dawn Kellogg, Scholarship Committee
100 Marina Drive
Rochester, NY 14626**