

# Marion Community Foundation - 2026 Scholarship Application

PROGRAM DEADLINE: February 10, 2026 at 10:00 AM

## Instructions

### Scholarship Application Instructions & Requirements

The application deadline is Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 10:00 AM EST.

*\*Only online applications will be accepted.\**

*Information provided in this application should be true, complete and accurate to the best of your knowledge. Responses in this application will be used to determine if you meet the scholarship criteria and requirements of the various Marion Community Foundation scholarships.*

Please read these critical guidelines before beginning your application.

#### Login & Saving Your Work

**Saving:** The application does not need to be completed in one sitting. You can save your progress and return at any time before the deadline.

**Username:** Use a personal email address (do not use a high school email).

This is the email that will be used for all official communication, including when it is time to submit your Proof of Enrollment starting in July, should you receive an award.

**Password:** Save your password! You will need this login information to return to your application before the deadline and to submit your proof of enrollment starting in July if you are awarded a scholarship.

#### Communication Policy

**Primary Contact:** We will communicate via the primary email address and phone number provided on your application. Check them regularly.

**Avoid High School Emails:** Do not use a high school email address, as it typically expires upon graduation.

**Update Responsibility:** It is your responsibility to notify Marion Community Foundation of any changes to your contact information.

#### Letters of Recommendation (CRITICAL)

Two (2) Letters of Recommendation are REQUIRED for your application to be considered complete.

**Recommenders:** One letter must be from an academic professional; the second must be from a community member.

**Guidance Counselor:** Current High School Seniors must also provide the contact information for your Guidance Counselor so counselors can upload your transcript.

**Process:** Within the online application, you will enter the name and email address of your recommenders. An automatic request will be sent on your behalf.

**Deadline:** It is your responsibility to ensure we receive the letters of recommendation by the application due date. Your application will not be considered complete if we do not receive this information by the deadline.

#### Application Essays

**Single Application:** This is a Common Application. You only need to complete this one application to be eligible for all scholarship funds where you meet the criteria.

**Optional Essays:** Certain specific scholarships require an additional, optional essay. These essays will become available to you as you progress through the application. These essays are optional, but be sure to only complete the additional essays if you meet the requirements listed in the essay question.

**Special Consideration Factors:** If a scholarship lists "Special Consideration Factors," these are not requirements, but meeting them will give you an advantage during review.

#### **Eligible Institutions & Funds**

**Eligible Schools:** Scholarships are only awarded to non-profit, tax-exempt educational institutions (most public and private colleges and universities qualify). Contact us at [info@marioncommunityfoundation.org](mailto:info@marioncommunityfoundation.org) if you have eligibility questions.

**Covered Costs:** Scholarships only cover tuition and required course-related expenses. Scholarship funds do not cover room and board.

#### **Submission & Deadline**

**Deadline:** Only applications in the SUBMITTED STATUS (meaning all application steps, attachments, and recommendations are complete) by the absolute deadline of Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 10:00 AM EST will be considered.

**Browser:** We recommend using Google Chrome, Edge, Mozilla Firefox, or Apple Safari. Do not use Internet Explorer.

**Agreement:** By submitting an application, you acknowledge and agree to the Marion Community Foundation Scholarship Rules & Guidelines.

**A complete list of Marion Community Foundation scholarships and the eligibility requirements for each can be found at the website: [Marion Community Foundation Scholarships Available](#).**

## **Personal Information**

### **Contact Information**

FIRST NAME \*

MIDDLE NAME

LAST NAME \*

CHOSEN NAME: If the first or last name that you prefer to use for public recognition purposes is **different** than what you have listed above, please state such full alternate name. If NOT different, LEAVE BLANK.

PRIMARY EMAIL: Primary email address to receive scholarship correspondence from Marion Community Foundation.

*Do NOT use a high school email address which will expire upon graduation. Use an email address you will check regularly and have access to after graduation. \**

Do NOT use a high school email address. Please use an email address you will have access to and check regularly after graduation.

SECONDARY EMAIL: Provide secondary email address to receive scholarship correspondence from Marion Community Foundation in the event the primary email address does not function or respond.

*The secondary email address should be different than the primary email address you listed in the previous question.*

*Do NOT use a high school email address which will expire upon graduation. Use email address you will have access to after high school. \**

Please use email address you will have access to and check regularly after graduation.

The secondary email address should be different than the primary email address you listed in the previous question.

PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER \*

SECONDARY PHONE NUMBER \*

STREET ADDRESS \*

CITY \*

STATE \*

ZIP CODE \*

**Residence**

## Eligibility & Required Questions

**We use these questions to match you with all available scholarships. You must answer every required question, even if some appear redundant.**

***(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)***

### Current & Continuous Residency

**Please answer YES only if you have maintained continuous residency in the specified county(ies) for the entire duration listed, up to today's date.**

RES: What is the county of your current permanent residence? \*

- ☐ Crawford County, Ohio
- ☐ Delaware County, Ohio
- ☐ Hardin County, Ohio
- ☐ Marion County, Ohio
- ☐ Morrow County, Ohio
- ☐ Union County, Ohio
- ☐ Wyandot County, Ohio
- ☐ Other

RES 1: Have you been a continuous resident of any of the following counties for a minimum of twelve (12) months immediately preceding today's date: Marion, Crawford, Delaware, Hardin, Morrow, Union, or Wyandot? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

RES MAR 1.5: Have you been a continuous resident of Marion County for a minimum of eighteen (18) months immediately preceding today's date? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

RES MAR 2: Have you been a continuous resident of Marion County for the last two (2) years immediately preceding today's date? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

RES MAR ANY 2: Have you been a continuous resident of Marion County for two (2) or more continuous years at any point in your life? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

RES MAR 3: Have you been a continuous resident of Marion County for the last three (3) years immediately preceding today's date? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES MAR 4: Have you been a continuous resident of Marion County for the last four (4) years immediately preceding today's date? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES MOR 1: Have you been a continuous resident of Morrow County for the last twelve (12) months immediately preceding today's date? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES WYD 2: Have you been a continuous resident of Wyandot County for two (2) or more continuous years at any point in your life? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

### High School Residency

**The following questions relate specifically to your high school enrollment period.**

RES THRU HS: Did you reside continuously in any of the following counties throughout your entire high school enrollment period: Crawford, Delaware, Hardin, Marion, Morrow, Union, or Wyandot? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES THRU HS MAR: Did you reside continuously in Marion County throughout your entire high school enrollment period (from 9th grade start to graduation)? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES DUR HS MAR 2: Did you reside in Marion County for a minimum of two (2) total years during your high school enrollment? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES PRE-GRAD MAR 2: Were you a continuous resident of Marion County for the two (2) years immediately preceding your High School Graduation date? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES PRE-GRAD MOR 1: Were you a continuous resident of Morrow County for the one (1) year immediately preceding your High School Graduation date? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

RES LaRUE SCHL DIST: Have you resided in the very specific geographic area that once was the LaRue School District before the time of school consolidation in Marion County, Ohio, for the entirety of your high school experience? Please see the map linked below to determine if you are eligible for the LaRue Alumni Association Scholarship. This is different from the current Village of LaRue.

Map of geographic area is SHOWN HERE: [LaRue Alumni Association Scholarship Geographic Area](#)

Description of geographic area: lies in and around the current Village of LaRue, Ohio and in parts of the current Grand, Montgomery, and Bowling Green Townships in Marion County, Ohio, and part of the current Dudley Township in Hardin County, Ohio. \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

## Background Information

### Eligibility & Required Questions

**We use these questions to match you with all available scholarships. You must answer every required question, even if some appear redundant.**

***Marion Community Foundation does not discriminate any qualified applicant for scholarship award because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, familial status, physical or mental disability.***

***(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)***

DEMO - AGE: What is your age in years as of February 10, 2026 \*

(1 to 99)

DEMO - GENDER: What is your gender? \*

- ☐ Female  
☐ Male  
☐ Nonbinary  
☐ Prefer not to say

DEMO - US CITIZEN: Are you a US Citizen? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

DEMO - LEGAL RES: If you are not a U.S. citizen, are you a legal resident of the United States? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Not Applicable

DEMO - 1ST GEN/IMMIGRANT: Are you a First Generation American or did you personally immigrate to the U.S. in your lifetime? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

FAM - MOTHER: What is the full name of your mother/female guardian? \*

FAM - FATHER: What is the full name of your father/male guardian? \*

FAM - COLLEGE1: Are you the first person in your immediate family who will attend college, or is attending college? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

FAM - COLLEGE2: Are you the first person in your family's history who will attend college, or is attending college? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

FAM - Y-MENS: Are you a close relative of a current member in good standing of the Y-Men's Service Club of Marion, Ohio? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

FAM - Y-MENS - NAME: What is the name of your close relative who is a current member in good standing with the Y-Men's Service Club of Marion, Ohio?

SCHL - CALEDONIA: Did your parents or grandparents attend the Caledonia School which was formerly located in the Village of Caledonia, Ohio? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

SCHL - CALEDONIA NAMES: You indicated above your parents and/or grandparents attended Caledonia School, please list the full names and relationship of these relatives. \*

SCHL - MCS ELE: Did you attend one or a combination of the following Marion City elementary schools for at least your 5th grade school experience when the schools had the following names: Mark Street, Fairpark, Taft, Oak Street, Lincoln, Silver Street, and/or Hayes? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

SCHL - MCS ELE NAME: Which elementary school(s) did you attend during your 5th grade school experience when the schools had the following names: Mark Street, Fairpark, Taft, Oak Street, Lincoln, Silver Street, and/or Hayes? \*

- ☐ Mark Street Elementary School  
☐ Fairpark Elementary School  
☐ William Howard Taft Elementary School  
☐ Oak Street Elementary School  
☐ Abraham Lincoln Elementary School  
☐ Silver Street Elementary School  
☐ Rutherford B. Hayes Elementary School

SCHL - MCS MS: Did you attend either or both Taft Middle School or Grant Middle School for your entire middle school experience? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

MIL - ACTIVE: Are **you an active duty member** with any service branch of the US military? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

MIL - VET: Are **you an honorably discharged veteran** of any branch of the US military? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

MIL - ARNG: Are you, or are you a relative of, a current or honorably discharged member of the **Reserve or National Guard**?

*Relative is defined as spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, sibling, first cousin, niece or nephew.\**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No



MIL - FAM - ACTIVE: Are you a **relative of an active duty member** of any service branch of the US military?

*Relative is defined as spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, sibling, first cousin, niece or nephew.\**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

MIL - FAM - VET: Are you a **relative of an honorably discharged veteran** of any branch of the US military?

*Relative is defined as spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, sibling, first cousin, niece or nephew.\**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

MIL - FAM - ACTIVEa: Are you a **child or grandchild of a current, active duty member** of any service branch of the US military? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

MIL - FAM - VETa: Are you a **child or grandchild of an honorably discharged veteran** of any service branch of the US military? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

REL - CREED: Are you a Christian church member who adheres to the beliefs outlined in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

REL - CATHOLIC: Is your religious affiliation with the Catholic church? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

TRBL - JUVENILE: As a minor in any juvenile court, have you ever admitted to being, been adjudicated (i.e. found guilty), or have pending charges against you, for any of the following: a juvenile delinquent; an unruly child; a juvenile traffic offender as the result of a drug related or alcohol related traffic offense? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

TRBL - ADULT: As an adult in any court, have you ever pled guilty to, pled no contest to, been found guilty of, or have pending charges against you, for either of the following: any crime (other than a minor traffic offense) or any traffic offense related to drugs or alcohol? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

TRBL - SCHL: As a student, have you ever been suspended or expelled from your current school or schools previously attended? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

TRBL - EXPLANATION: If yes, please explain. \*

## High School Information

### High School Information

**We use these questions to match you with all available scholarships. You must answer every required question, even if some appear redundant.**

***(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)***

HS - NAME: Please select the name of the High School from which you will graduate or did graduate. \*

List the High School which will award, or awarded, your graduation diploma.

For Tri-Rivers Career Center, please choose your home high school district.

For Marion Ellen Withrow Academy, choose Harding High School.

HS - ALT NAME: What is the name of the home school, eSchool, digital/online school, virtual academy, community school, or state recognized charter school in which you participated? \*

HS - GRAD DATE: What is your graduation date (MM/YYYY) from High School? \*

☐ Clear

HS - YRS: How many years will you have attended this high school by May 2026;**OR** how many years did you attend this high school?

*If you are currently in high school, report the length of time in year increments as of May 2026 graduation.*

\*

*(0.5 to 6)*

HS - CLASS SIZE: What is, or what was, the total number of students in your high school graduation class? \*

HS - RANK: What is, or what was, your high school class rank? \*

Contact your HS Guidance Counselor to confirm your class rank.

HS - GPA: What is, or what was, your high school cumulative GPA (based on a 4.0 scale)? \*

*(0.00 to 4.00)*

ACT/SAT - TEST: Have you taken and received a score for ACT or SAT test? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

ACT/SAT SCORE: What was the SCORE you received on your ACT or SAT test?

The answer should be the ACT or SAT composite test score you received. \*

*(0 to 1600)*

ACT/SAT %: What is the percentile you received on your ACT or SAT test?

This should be the percentile you achieved. This answer should **not** be the score you received. \*

%

Your percentile ranking is a comparison of your ACT/SAT score with everyone else who took the test. If percentile is unknown, search online using your test score and the year test was taken.

*(0 to 100)*

ACT/SAT - NO TEST: Explain reason(s) or circumstances why you did not take or need to take the ACT/SAT test. \*

HS - TRCC: Do you attend, or did you attend, Tri-Rivers Career Center? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

HS - TRCC FT: Are you a full-time student, or were you a full-time student, at Tri-Rivers Career Center?

*A full-time student is defined as taking both your academic classes and lab classes at Tri-Rivers.\**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

HS - TRCC PROGRAM: Which Career Program are you currently enrolled, or were you previously enrolled in, at Tri-Rivers Career Center? \*

- ☐ Advanced Machining at RAMTEC  
☐ Automotive Technology  
☐ CEI - Career for Independence  
☐ CNET-Computer Networking Electronics  
☐ Construction Trades Academy  
☐ Cosmetology  
☐ Criminal Justice  
☐ Culinary Arts  
☐ Diesel & Power Equipment Technology  
☐ Engineering Technologies at RAMTEC  
☐ Esthetics (Skin Care)  
☐ Exercise Science & Sports Medicine  
☐ Health Careers Academy  
☐ Interactive Media  
☐ Nail Tech  
☐ Project SEARCH  
☐ Veterinary Science  
☐ Welding at RAMTEC  
☐ Other

## Post Secondary Plans

## Graduate Status

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

GRAD - STATUS: Are you a current high school senior who is on track to receive your diploma at the end of this school year? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

GRAD STATUS 2: Have you already received your high school diploma AND are you currently or have you previously been enrolled at a higher education institution? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## Current HS Senior - Post Secondary Plans

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. The "upcoming academic year" refers to the 2026/2027 school year.

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

GRAD - IN HS - 1ST CHOICE: What is the college, university or technical school that is **your first choice or the institution you are most likely to attend** during the upcoming academic year? \*

GRAD - IN HS - 1ST CHOICE STATUS: What is the status of your first choice or most likely to attend institution? \*

- ☐ Accepted for admission
- ☐ Applied for admission but have not yet heard
- ☐ Not yet applied for admission
- ☐ Wait listed
- ☐ Other

GRAD - IN HS - 2ND CHOICE: What is the college, university or technical school that is your **second choice** to attend during the upcoming academic year? \*

GRAD - IN HS - 2ND CHOICE STATUS: What is the status of your second choice institution? \*

- ☐ Accepted for admission
- ☐ Applied for admission but have not yet heard
- ☐ Not yet applied for admission
- ☐ Wait listed
- ☐ Other

GRAD - IN HS - CHOICE EXPL (Optional): If desired, you may add explanation regarding your top choices, schools applied to, and status (ex. acceptance, waitlist) to each school for the upcoming academic year.

## High School Graduate - Post Secondary Plans

**You should only complete the following if you have already received your high school diploma. The "upcoming academic year" refers to the 2026/2027 school year.**

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

HIGHER ED - NAME: What is the name of the college, university or technical school you will attend during the upcoming academic year? \*

HIGHER ED - GPA: What is your cumulative **college GPA** (based on a 4.0 scale)?

\*

(0.00 to 4.00)

HIGHER ED - TRANSCRIPT: Please attach your latest college transcript (Pdf or jpg formats. Max file size 10 MB.).

*Official transcript with a seal is **NOT** required. However, transcript information **MUST** show student's name, college or university name, all courses taken and the corresponding grade received, and overall cumulative grade point average achieved. \**

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached

Submitted transcript information should include student's name, college or university name, all courses taken and show the corresponding grade received, and overall cumulative grade point average achieved. "Official" transcript is not required.

HIGHER ED - GOLF: Do you currently or have you participated in intercollegiate golf? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

HIGHER ED - FOOTBALL: Do you currently or have you participated in intercollegiate football? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

JOB HIGHER ED - Since graduating high school, have you held a full-time or part-time job while simultaneously taking higher education courses? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

## High School Graduate - Not Yet Started Post Secondary

HIGHER ED - GPA EPLANATION: Several of the scholarship selection criteria require a college GPA or transcript. Please explain your circumstances that you do not have a GPA or transcript to provide. \*

HIGHER ED 2 - NAME: What is the name of the college, university, or technical school you will attend during the upcoming academic year? \*

## All Applicants - Post Secondary Plans

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability.

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

HIGHER ED - TYPE: What best describes the school/college/university you will attend for the upcoming academic year? \*

- ☐ Trade, apprenticeship or skilled labor school
- ☐ Technical or community college (NOT a four year program)
- ☐ College or university for four-year undergraduate program
- ☐ Graduate school
- ☐ Law school
- ☐ Medical school (ex., allopathic, conventional medicine, osteopathic)
- ☐ Adult education program
- ☐ Other

HIGHER ED - YEAR: For the upcoming academic year, what class level/year will you be considered? \*

- ☐ Freshman - Undergraduate (1st year)
- ☐ Sophomore - Undergraduate (2nd year)
- ☐ Junior - Undergraduate (3rd year)
- ☐ Senior - Undergraduate (4th year)
- ☐ Other



HIGHER ED - OSUM: Will you register at **The Ohio State University at MARION** to take classes during the upcoming academic year ? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

HIGHER ED - MTC: Will you register at **Marion Technical College** to take classes during the upcoming academic year? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

MTC LAB: Will you be participating in Marion Technical College's Medical Laboratory Technician program in the upcoming academic year? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

HIGHER ED - OH: Will you most likely be attending a college, university, or technical school located in Ohio? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

HIGHER ED - CATHOLIC: Will you most likely attend a college or university whose only religious affiliation is with the Catholic Church? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

HIGHER ED - LAND GRANT: Will you most likely be attending a land grant university? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

HIGHER ED - 1ST CHOICE FOS: At this time, what is your **FIRST CHOICE** for your field of study or major? \*

- ☐ Accounting
- ☐ Advertising
- ☐ Agribusiness
- ☐ Agriculture (General)
- ☐ Allied Health
- ☐ American History Education
- ☐ Animal Science
- ☐ Art Education
- ☐ Art (Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Commercial Art)
- ☐ Automotive Mechanics and Technology
- ☐ Behavioral Health / Mental Health
- ☐ Business (General)
- ☐ Business Management
- ☐ Climate Science
- ☐ Communication (General)

- ☐ Construction Trades
- ☐ Culinary Arts / Food Industry
- ☐ Early Childhood Education
- ☐ Economics
- ☐ Education (General)
- ☐ Elementary Education
- ☐ Engineering (General)
- ☐ Engineering Technology
- ☐ English
- ☐ Entrepreneurship
- ☐ Environmental Engineering
- ☐ Environmental Science / Management
- ☐ Equine Industry
- ☐ Esthetics and Cosmetology
- ☐ Exercise Science / Sports Science
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ General/Family Medical Practice
- ☐ Geriatrics / Gerontology
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Healthcare Administration
- ☐ Healthcare (General)
- ☐ History
- ☐ Horticulture
- ☐ Hospitality Management
- ☐ Human Resources
- ☐ Industrial Maintenance
- ☐ Industry, Manufacturing, and Technology
- ☐ Journalism
- ☐ K-12 Education
- ☐ Land Development
- ☐ Law Enforcement
- ☐ Law or Pre-Law
- ☐ Marketing
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Medical Sciences
- ☐ Medicine or Pre-Med
- ☐ Middle Childhood Education
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Music Education
- ☐ Natural Resource Management
- ☐ Nursing
- ☐ Oncology
- ☐ Pediatrics
- ☐ Performing Arts
- ☐ Pharmacy
- ☐ Physical Education
- ☐ Plant Science
- ☐ Political Science
- ☐ Psychology

- ☐ Psychiatry
- ☐ Public Service and Public Safety
- ☐ Radiology / Imaging Technology
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ Rehabilitation Therapies
- ☐ Renewable Energy Engineering
- ☐ Robotics and Automation
- ☐ Social Work / Human Social Services
- ☐ Soil Science
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Special Education
- ☐ Speech & Hearing
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ S.T.E.M.M. - Science, Technology, Engineering Math, Medicine (General)
- ☐ Technology (General)
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Urban Planning and Sustainability
- ☐ Veterinary Medicine
- ☐ Veterinary Technician / Technology
- ☐ Welding
- ☐ Other

Even if you aren't completely sure of your intended major, degree, certificate, or field of study, please select your top choice at the moment.

HIGHER ED - 2ND CHOICE FOS: At this time, what is your **SECOND CHOICE** for your field of study or major?

\*

- ☐ Accounting
- ☐ Advertising
- ☐ Agribusiness
- ☐ Agriculture (General)
- ☐ Allied Health
- ☐ American History Education
- ☐ Animal Science
- ☐ Art Education
- ☐ Art (Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Commercial Art)
- ☐ Automotive Mechanics and Technology
- ☐ Behavioral Health / Mental Health
- ☐ Business (General)
- ☐ Business Management
- ☐ Climate Science
- ☐ Communication (General)
- ☐ Construction Trades
- ☐ Culinary Arts / Food Industry
- ☐ Early Childhood Education
- ☐ Economics
- ☐ Education (General)
- ☐ Elementary Education
- ☐ Engineering (General)

- ☐ Engineering Technology
- ☐ English
- ☐ Entrepreneurship
- ☐ Environmental Engineering
- ☐ Environmental Science / Management
- ☐ Equine Industry
- ☐ Esthetics and Cosmetology
- ☐ Exercise Science / Sports Science
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ General/Family Medical Practice
- ☐ Geriatrics / Gerontology
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Healthcare Administration
- ☐ Healthcare (General)
- ☐ History
- ☐ Horticulture
- ☐ Hospitality Management
- ☐ Human Resources
- ☐ Industrial Maintenance
- ☐ Industry, Manufacturing, and Technology
- ☐ Journalism
- ☐ K-12 Education
- ☐ Land Development
- ☐ Law Enforcement
- ☐ Law or Pre-Law
- ☐ Marketing
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Medical Sciences
- ☐ Medicine or Pre-Med
- ☐ Middle Childhood Education
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Music Education
- ☐ Natural Resource Management
- ☐ Nursing
- ☐ Oncology
- ☐ Pediatrics
- ☐ Performing Arts
- ☐ Pharmacy
- ☐ Physical Education
- ☐ Plant Science
- ☐ Political Science
- ☐ Psychology
- ☐ Psychiatry
- ☐ Public Service and Public Safety
- ☐ Radiology / Imaging Technology
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ Rehabilitation Therapies
- ☐ Renewable Energy Engineering
- ☐ Robotics and Automation

- ☐ Social Work / Human Social Services
- ☐ Soil Science
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Special Education
- ☐ Speech & Hearing
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ S.T.E.M.M. - Science, Technology, Engineering Math, Medicine (General)
- ☐ Technology (General)
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Urban Planning and Sustainability
- ☐ Veterinary Medicine
- ☐ Veterinary Technician / Technology
- ☐ Welding
- ☐ Other

Even if you aren't completely sure of your intended major, degree, certificate, or field of study, please select your second choice at the moment.

HIGHER ED - OTHER FOS: At this time, please select **any and all** of the fields of study or majors you are considering. \*

- ☐ Accounting
- ☐ Advertising
- ☐ Agribusiness
- ☐ Agriculture (General)
- ☐ Allied Health
- ☐ American History Education
- ☐ Animal Science
- ☐ Art Education
- ☐ Art (Fine Arts, Visual Arts, Commercial Art)
- ☐ Automotive Mechanics and Technology
- ☐ Behavioral Health / Mental Health
- ☐ Business (General)
- ☐ Business Management
- ☐ Climate Science
- ☐ Communication (General)
- ☐ Construction Trades
- ☐ Culinary Arts / Food Industry
- ☐ Early Childhood Education
- ☐ Economics
- ☐ Education (General)
- ☐ Elementary Education
- ☐ Engineering (General)
- ☐ Engineering Technology
- ☐ English
- ☐ Entrepreneurship
- ☐ Environmental Engineering
- ☐ Environmental Science / Management

- ☐ Equine Industry
- ☐ Esthetics and Cosmetology
- ☐ Exercise Science / Sports Science
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ General/Family Medical Practice
- ☐ Geriatrics / Gerontology
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Healthcare Administration
- ☐ Healthcare (General)
- ☐ History
- ☐ Horticulture
- ☐ Hospitality Management
- ☐ Human Resources
- ☐ Industrial Maintenance
- ☐ Industry, Manufacturing, and Technology
- ☐ Journalism
- ☐ K-12 Education
- ☐ Land Development
- ☐ Law Enforcement
- ☐ Law or Pre-Law
- ☐ Marketing
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Medical Sciences
- ☐ Medicine or Pre-Med
- ☐ Middle Childhood Education
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Music Education
- ☐ Natural Resource Management
- ☐ Nursing
- ☐ Oncology
- ☐ Pediatrics
- ☐ Performing Arts
- ☐ Pharmacy
- ☐ Physical Education
- ☐ Plant Science
- ☐ Political Science
- ☐ Psychology
- ☐ Psychiatry
- ☐ Public Service and Public Safety
- ☐ Radiology / Imaging Technology
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ Rehabilitation Therapies
- ☐ Renewable Energy Engineering
- ☐ Robotics and Automation
- ☐ Social Work / Human Social Services
- ☐ Soil Science
- ☐ Spanish

- ☐ Special Education
- ☐ Speech & Hearing
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ S.T.E.M.M. - Science, Technology, Engineering Math, Medicine (General)
- ☐ Technology (General)
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Urban Planning and Sustainability
- ☐ Veterinary Medicine
- ☐ Veterinary Technician / Technology
- ☐ Welding
- ☐ Other

Even if you aren't completely sure of your intended major, degree, certificate, or field of study, please select all the fields you are interested in.

HIGHER ED - NURSING: If pursuing nursing, will the degree you are pursuing result in an Associates Degree or higher and qualify you for a license as Registered Nurse? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

HIGHER ED - MTC IEP: One of the scholarships gives special consideration to students attending Marion Technical College who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or who have a physical disability. Do you meet this criteria? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

HIGHER ED - MTC IEP EXPLANATION (Optional): If desired, please share more about your Individualized Education Program (IEP) or physical disability.

## Activities, Service, Work Experience

### School Extracurricular Activities & Academic Awards

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

4-H - MEMBER: Are you or have you been an active 4-H member? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

4-H - YRS: How many years were you or have you been an active 4-H member? \*

FFA: Have you been actively involved in FFA? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

FFA - YRS: How many years have you been involved in FFA? \*

(.5 to 4)

FAIR - Are you an active exhibitor at the Marion County Jr. Fair? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

FAIR EXP - Tell us about your participation as a junior fair exhibitor. \*

SCOUTS - Are you a member, or were you a member, of the Boy Scouts of America's Harding Area District, Heart of Ohio Council?

*The Boy Scouts of America's Harding Area District, Heart of Ohio Council/Buckeye Council geographic area is defined as Crawford, Marion, Morrow, and Wyandot counties, but excluding the City of Galion. \**

☐ Yes

☐ No

SCOUTS - EAGLE: Are you an Eagle Scout? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

ATHLETICS - HS: Did you participate as an athlete in a high school athletic program? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No



ATHLETICS - HS ROLE: Did you participate in high school athletics as a manager, trainer, statistician, or other support/non-athlete role? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

ATHLETICS - HS PRGM: In which high school athletic program(s) did you participate? \*

- ☐ Baseball  
☐ Basketball  
☐ Bowling  
☐ Cheerleading  
☐ Cross Country  
☐ Football  
☐ Golf  
☐ Soccer  
☐ Softball  
☐ Swimming  
☐ Track & Field  
☐ Volleyball  
☐ Wrestling  
☐ Other

ATHLETICS - HS YRS: How many years were you involved in a high school athletic program(s)? \*

(.5 to 4.0)

ATHLETICS - LETTER: Did you earn a High School varsity letter for athletics? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

ATHLETICS - SR YR: Did you participate in at least one varsity sport during your HS senior year? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

ATHLETIC - LETTER SPORT: In what sport(s) did you earn a High School varsity letter for athletics? \*

MUSIC - HS: Did you participate in any school sponsored music program such as high school band, orchestra, choir, etc.? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

MUSIC - HS PRGM: In which high school extracurricular music program(s) did you participate? \*

☐ Choir

☐ Concert Band

☐ Jazz Band

☐ Marching Band

☐ Musical

☐ Orchestra

☐ Pep Band

☐ Show Choir

☐ Solo and Ensemble

☐ Tri-M Music Honor

Society

☐ Other

MUSIC - BAND: How many years were you involved in band? \*

(0.0 to 4.0)

MUSIC - ORCHESTRA: How many years were you involved in orchestra? \*

(0.0 to 4.0)

MUSIC - CHOIR: How many years were you involved in choir? \*

(0.0 to 4.0)

TRI-M: Tell us about your participation in the Tri-M Music Honor Society. \*

LIST - ACTIVITIES & AWARDS: List extracurricular school activities in which you have participated and academic awards you have achieved. Indicate leadership positions held and the length of involvement in activities.

For those who have already began their higher education path, please list the activities in which you have participated and academic awards you have achieved since beginning your higher education experience.

*You may copy/paste from a text document; maximum is 500 words.\**

Max Number of Words: 500

## Community Service and Volunteerism

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

REL MBR - Are you an active member of any church? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

REL - TBC: Are you a member of Trinity Baptist Church of Marion, Ohio? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

REL - ST. MARY: Are you an active member of St. Mary Parish of Marion, Ohio? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

REL - LUMC: Are you an active participant of the LaRue United Methodist Church? (Active participation means attending at least 12 church functions within the last 12 months.) \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

REL - LUMC LIST: The Harris Scholarship selection criteria require applicants to be an active participant of LaRue United Methodist Church. Active participation means having attended at least twelve (12) church functions during the twelve months immediately preceding the application date. Please list twelve church activities and the date participated. Example of church functions include worship service, Sunday school, youth fellowship, chapel, assembly, or other church-related activities.

Date	Church Function
------	-----------------

\*

--

LIST - COMMUNITY SERVICE & VOL: List community service and volunteer activities you have performed in connection with community organizations, faith-based groups, or clubs. Indicate any leadership role(s) and the length of involvement with the activities.

*You may copy/paste a text document; maximum is 500 words.\**

--

Max Number of Words: 500

## Work Experience

***(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)***

JOB HS - Do you or did you have a full-time or part-time job during high school? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

SR CIT - ASST LIVING: Are you an employee of an assisted living facility or nursing facility for senior citizens? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

SR CIT - ACA + EXP: Do you have direct academic and personal experience in fields that relate to service to older citizens, including, but not limited to, gerontology, geriatrics, social work, nursing, rehabilitation therapies, marketing, or healthcare administration? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

SR CIT - UCH EXP: Do you have direct personal experience as a volunteer, intern, or employee of long-term care facilities, assisted living centers, senior housing, churches, community organizations and other programs focusing on senior citizens, or other related community events and activities? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

SR CIT - UCH EX: Provide examples of your direct academic and personal experiences related to service to older citizens. \*

LIST - WORK: List work experience (if any). Indicate employer, position held, start and end dates, approximate number of hours worked per week, and primary duties.

*You may copy/paste a text document; maximum is 500 words.\**

Max Number of Words: 500

## Personal Statement Essays

## Required Essays

**The essays below are required for the application to be submitted and considered complete.**

ESSAY 1: Discuss all of the following:

Why did you choose your field(s) of study and what influenced your decision? What are your career plans after graduation from college? What do you expect to be doing ten years after graduation from college or further down the road?

*You may copy/paste a text document; maximum is 1,000 words. \**

Max Number of Words: 1000

ESSAY 2: Describe your motivation and passions, background, and/or special circumstances or obstacles you have overcome.

*You may copy/paste a text document; maximum is 1,000 words. \**

Max Number of Words: 1000

ESSAY 3: Describe a life-changing event that affected you. This life-changing event does not necessarily have to have been directly associated with your life, but may have been an event of which you are aware and has had a significant impact on your outlook toward life.

*You may copy/paste a text document; maximum is 1,000 words. \**

Max Number of Words: 1000

## Optional Essays

### Additional Essays for Specific Scholarships

The criteria of certain scholarships require an additional essay. You will be eligible for the specific scholarships only if you meet the scholarship criteria and the corresponding essay is completed.

This section of the application is optional. If you choose to complete this section, you may only submit the essays for which you meet the criteria listed in the question. Each essay has its own set of criteria.

OPT ESSAY - COOPER: Alex Cooper Memorial Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship IF you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

You have personally been diagnosed with cancer **OR** You have an immediate family member who has been or was previously diagnosed with cancer; **AND**  
You attended River Valley High School, including those who attending Tri-Rivers Career Center, **OR** you are a candidate for graduation from a home school, eSchool, digital/online school, virtual academy, community school, or other state recognized charter non-public school living in the River Valley school district; **AND**  
You have a 2.5+ GPA if you are in high school **OR** a 2.5+ GPA if you are in college; **AND**  
You are not a relative of Jonathan Culler or Andrea Ault.

Special consideration will be giving to anyone active in RV athletics or RV music.

**If you meet this criteria, please explain how cancer has affected your life and your financial need.**

*Note: Do not disclose confidential information that may be protected by HIPAA rules.*

OPT ESSAY - NICOLOSI: Rocco Nicolosi Memorial Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship **IF** you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

You are currently a high school senior; **AND**

You will have attended a Marion County high school all four years; **AND**

You are in the upper 25th percentile of your high school class

Provide an essay response to the following: **"Why Do Young People in Marion Need to be Drug, Alcohol, and Substance Free?"**

*You may copy/paste from a text document. 1,000 word limit.*

OPT ESSAY - PEZLEY: Paul Pezley Baseball Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship **IF** you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

You are a current high school senior or a high school graduate; **AND**

You attended Harding High School or River Valley High School for 2+ years; **AND**

You have been an active participant on the Harding or RV baseball team for 1+ season; **AND**

You have a 2.5+ GPA if you are still in high school OR a 2.5+ GPA if you are in college **AND**

You provide a recommendation from a person who has played a role in your baseball career at any level

Additionally, you will be given special consideration if you:

Held a full or part-time job during high school; **AND/OR**

Are the first person in your immediate family to attend college,

Provide an essay response to the following: **"Describe how your life was influenced by a specific experience while playing baseball."**

*You may copy/paste from a text document. 1,000 word limit.*

OPT ESSAY - PEZLEY - REC: Please provide and upload a recommendation from a person who has played a role in your baseball career at any level.

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached



OPT ESSAY - PREXY PRIDE: Coach Mac Prexy Pride Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship **IF** you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

- You are currently a high school senior; **AND**
- You attended Harding High School for 2+ years; **AND**
- You have been an active athletic participant for 1+ seasons.

Provide an essay response to the following: **"Describe what "Prexy Pride" means to you and how you have demonstrated Prexy Pride while a student at Harding High School. "**

*You may copy/paste from a text document. 250 minimum word limit; 1,000 maximum word limit.*

OPT ESSAY - TROLL: Gary W. Troll Memorial Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship **IF** you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

- You are a high school senior; **AND**
- You attended one of following high schools -- Elgin, Pleasant, Ridgedale, River Valley, Hopewell-Louden, New Riegel, Old Fort, Seneca East, Carey, Mohawk, Upper Sandusky; **AND**
- You have a 2.75+ HS GPA.

Provide an essay response to the following: **"Describe an opportunity(s) you have had to demonstrate your leadership skills."**

*You may copy/paste from a text document. 1,000 word limit.*

OPT ESSAY - MARION ELKS: Marion Elks Lodge No. 32 Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship **IF** you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

You are a high school senior; AND  
You are a Marion, Crawford, Delaware, Hardin, Morrow, Union, or Wyandot resident; AND  
You have lived in above county or counties for 1+ year; AND  
You are in the upper 40th percentile of HS class; AND  
You have a 2.5+ GPA.

Provide an essay response "**Demonstrate your understanding of the ideals and mission of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and their relevance to the community.**"

*You may copy/paste from a text document. 1,000 word limit.*

OPT ESSAY - GORDON: John T. Gordon Memorial Eagle Scout Scholarship

This is an optional response. Your application will be considered for this scholarship **IF** you meet the criteria below **AND** complete the essay:

You are a high school senior or college freshman; **AND**  
You are an Eagle Scout; **AND**  
You provide an Eagle Scout application; **AND**  
You have been active in the geographic area of the Boy Scouts of America's Harding Area District, Heart of Ohio Council/Buckeye Council. This is defined as Crawford, Marion, Morrow, and Wyandot counties, but excluding the City of Galion.

Provide an essay response "**Address the dangers of texting while driving. Include your opinion of legislation that bans texting while driving and whether you believe that cell phone use while driving should also be banned.**"

*You may copy/paste from a text document. 1,000 word limit.*

OPT ESSAY - GORDON - SCOUT APP: Required Eagle Scout Application -- Please upload your Eagle Scout application (PDF or JPG format only).

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached

## Financial Information

### Estimated Yearly Expenses

Provide the estimated yearly expenses for the college, university, or technical school you will attend during the upcoming 2026/2027 academic year. This information can be obtained from the college or university website or by contacting their Office of Admissions.

*Please note that the "upcoming academic year" refers to the 2026/2027 school year.*

*(Please ignore the leading all-caps codes; they are for internal office use only.)*

HIGHER ED - NAME: Name of College/University/Technical School you plan to attend or are most likely to attend during the upcoming academic year. \*

COST - TUITION: What is the total for tuition and fees for the upcoming academic year? \*

\$

Tuition and fee expenses can be located on your college website. Check your college website to get an accurate estimate for tuition and fee costs.

COST - BOOKS: What is the total estimated cost for books and supplies for the upcoming academic year? \*

\$

**COST - TOTAL: Estimated Expenses for which Marion Community Foundation scholarship awards can be applied for the upcoming academic year (total of two amounts above)**

COST - ROOM & BOARD: What is the total cost for room and board for the upcoming academic year? \*

\$

Room and board expenses can be located on your college website. Check your college website to get an accurate estimate for room and board fees/costs.

**Marion Community Foundation will disburse scholarship awards in a manner that best attempts to ensure the funds are used only for: (A) tuition and fees required to enroll at or attend an eligible educational institution; and (B) course-related expenses, such as fees, books, supplies, and equipment that are required for the courses and that must be required of all students in the course of instruction and billed directly by the institution.**

**Marion Community Foundation scholarship awards may only be payable to a non-profit, federally tax-exempt eligible educational institution. No portion of scholarship awards will be paid directly to the individual scholarship recipients.**

## Resources Available for Yearly College Costs

CONTR - SAVINGS: What are your personal savings to be used for the upcoming academic year college expenses? \*

\$

CONTR - WORK: What are your expected employment earnings during the upcoming academic year to be used for college expenses? \*

\$

CONTR - FAM: From all sources, how much do your parents/guardians/relatives expect to pay for your college expenses during the upcoming academic year? \*

\$

CONTR - SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS: What is the amount of ALL funding sources you expect to receive for the upcoming academic year that you do NOT have to pay back. Examples: scholarships, grants, Social Security, Veterans Benefits, etc.

This should NOT include loans that you will be required to pay back. \*

\$

**CONTR - TOTAL: Total Resources Available for the upcoming academic year (This is a total of the four amounts above.)**

\$

## Financial Summary

**FIN - GAP: Excess or Gap between Available Resources and Estimated Expenses. (This amount will calculate automatically based on above information provided.)**

\$

FIN - WORK: Will you work while attending college? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Not Sure

FIN - SIBLINGS: What is the number of siblings living in your home full time? \*

(Min Range: 0)

FIN - LOANS: If needed, will you apply for student loans? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

FIN - HARDSHIPS (Optional): Please describe any special financial hardships you or your family are facing. Please limit your response to 250 words or less.

**We use the FAFSA information to help determine your eligibility for the need-based scholarships and as criteria for evaluating applications. You may choose to NOT submit a FAFSA as part of this scholarship application. IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT A FAFSA, YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR ANY NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS. If you choose to submit your FAFSA, it must be submitted with this online application before the application deadline.**

FIN - FAFSCA SAI: **If you choose to submit FAFSA information, enter your Student Aid Index (SAI). Your SAI will be listed on your FAFSA Submission Summary.**

FIN - FAFSA: **If you choose to provide FAFSA information, scan and attach your FAFSA Submission Summary.**

Select File

Choose File

No file selected

Maximum File Size: 10MB

No file attached

## Recommendations

### Instructions

**IMPORTANT:** Your application will NOT BE REVIEWED OR CONSIDERED SUBMITTED unless the required RECOMMENDATIONS ARE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE of February 10, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. EST.

**IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONFIRM THAT RECOMMENDATION INFORMATION IS RECEIVED BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.** Be sure to work with your chosen recommender well in advance of the application deadline. If you see that your recommender has not submitted a recommendation several days prior to the deadline, you must communicate with that person to ensure the deadline will be met or get a new person to be your recommender.

### Recommender #1 - Academic Professional

Enter the contact information for a teacher or professor to submit a recommendation on your behalf. CALL, EMAIL OR TEXT this teacher or professor and inform them that they received an email recommendation request with your name. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to follow up and ensure your recommender responds by the application deadline. Your application will NOT be considered SUBMITTED until recommendations have been received. You will receive an email confirmation: 1) when the recommender has received the initial request; AND, 2) when the recommender has completed the submission. If this recommendation is not received by the Marion Community Foundation scholarship application deadline, you will not be eligible for a scholarship from Marion Community Foundation.

Recommender #1 First Name \*

Recommender #1 Last Name \*

Recommender #1 Email \*

Recommender #1 Organization

Recommender #1 Title

## Recommender #2 - Community Member

Enter the contact information for a community member (someone unrelated to you) to submit a recommendation on your behalf. CALL, EMAIL OR TEXT this community member to ensure that they received the auto-generated email recommendation request with your name. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to follow up and ensure your recommenders respond by the application deadline. Your application will not be considered submitted/complete until recommendations have been received. You will receive an email confirmation: 1) when the recommender has received the initial request; and, 2) when the recommender has completed the submission. If this recommendation is not received by the Marion Community Foundation scholarship application deadline, you will not be eligible for a scholarship from Marion Community Foundation.

Recommender #2 First Name \*

Recommender #2 Last Name \*

Recommender #2 Address Email \*

Recommender #2 Organization

Recommender #2 Title

### Guidance Counselor To Provide Information

For current HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ONLY -- Enter the contact information for your Guidance Counselor to submit information on your behalf. CALL, EMAIL OR TEXT your Guidance Counselor to ensure that they received the auto-generated email recommendation request with your name. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to follow up and ensure responses are received by the application deadline. Your application will not be considered submitted or complete until this information has been received. You will receive an email confirmation: 1) when the Guidance Counselor has received the initial request; and, 2) when the Guidance Counselor has completed the submission.

Guidance Counselor First Name \*

Guidance Counselor Last Name \*

Guidance Counselor Email \*

Guidance Counselor's School Name



## Scholarships Available & Related Persons

### Scholarships Available

A complete list of Marion Community Foundation scholarships and the eligibility requirements for each scholarship fund can be found at the website: [Marion Community Foundation Scholarships Available page.](#)

Based upon the answers to the questions you provided on this application, the Marion Community Foundation will match your qualifications to the scholarship funds that you meet the criteria. Scholarships with SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FACTORS in their criteria mean these items are not a requirement, but applicants meeting such criteria will be given special consideration.

Please double check your answers to application questions so the appropriate scholarship criteria is evaluated.

### Related Person

Scholarship recipients are not legally permitted to be "close relatives" of Marion Community Foundation Board of Directors members, Scholarship Selection Committee members, Marion Community Foundation employees, or anyone associated with persons who have established a Marion Community Foundation scholarship fund.

Please review the names of persons that have established each Marion Community Foundation scholarship fund at [Marion Community Foundation Scholarships Available.](#)

"Close Relative" is defined as a:

Spouse  
Child or step-child  
Grandchild or step-grandchild  
Great-grandchild or step-great-grandchild  
Sibling, half sibling, or step-sibling

CLOSE REL: If you are a "close relative" of any persons associated with a Marion Community Foundation scholarship, please check the box "Yes" and provide an explanation. \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

CLOSE REL - NAME: If you answered YES, please indicate to whom you are related, the relationship, and any other information you feel is appropriate. \*

## Acknowledge Policy & Guidelines

## **Acknowledge Scholarship Policy & Guidelines**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF POLICY**

I have read, understand, and agree to the Marion Community Foundation Scholarship Program Policy, Guidelines and Procedures (shown below). I understand that failure to comply with any rule or criterion may result in ineligibility to the scholarship program or revocation of a scholarship award. \*

☐ I accept and agree to all of terms of the Marion Community Foundation Scholarship Program Policy, Guidelines and Procedures.

### **MARION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

#### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM POLICY, GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

The following has been established by the Scholarship Committee of Marion Community Foundation to provide guidelines for the operation of the Scholarship Program at Marion Community Foundation. The Scholarship Committee has full authority from the Board of Directors of Marion Community Foundation to establish, implement, enforce, and modify these guidelines.

#### **APPLICABLE LAW**

The employees, Scholarship Committee members, and the Board of Directors of Marion Community Foundation will be subject to all applicable laws, regulations, and rules regarding the administration of the scholarship program.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 prohibits grants to individuals from funds that meet the fairly broad definition of donor-advised funds. For this reason, all funds that will be making grants to individuals must be sure not to fall within the definition of donor advised funds, even inadvertently. Under Section 4966 of the Tax Code, a fund will not be considered a donor-advised fund if all the following are true:

The sponsoring organization (the community foundation) appoints all of the members of the scholarship committee and the donor's advice is given solely as a member of the committee;  
Neither the donor nor the parties related to the donor control the scholarship committee directly or indirectly; and,  
All grants are awarded on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis using a procedure that has been approved in advance by the board of directors of the sponsoring organization and that has been designed to ensure that all such grants meet the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of section 4945(g) of the Tax Code.

The Foundation intends for the award from this fund to be a non-taxable qualified scholarship. As such, the Foundation will disburse the scholarship award in a manner that best attempts to ensure the funds are used only for:

tuition and fees required to enroll at or attend an eligible educational institution, meaning one whose primary function is the presentation of formal instruction, normally maintains a regular faculty and curriculum, and normally has a regularly enrolled body of students in attendance at the place where it carries on its educational activities; and

course-related expenses, such as fees, books, supplies, and equipment that are required for the courses at the eligible educational institution and that must be required of all students in the course of instruction.

Any amounts in excess of the above shall be refunded and returned to the Foundation. If the eligible educational institution applies any amounts to any charges other than the above, including, but not limited to, such expenses as room and board, then the eligible educational institution shall be responsible for notifying the student/recipient that such amounts are taxable income. All or a portion of this scholarship may be taxable income. Recipients should consult a tax advisor for more information.

Scholarship awards may only be payable to a non-profit, federally tax-exempt eligible educational institution as defined by the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations.

#### **GENERAL RULES**

Unless specifically permitted by the terms of a particular scholarship fund, recipients must be a "candidate for a degree at an eligible educational institution."

"Candidate for a degree" means the recipient is:

Pursuing a degree at a college or university; or  
Attending an educational institution that:  
Provides a program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's or higher degree, or offers a program of training to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation; and,  
Is authorized under federal or state law to provide such a program and is accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation agency.

"Eligible educational institution" means one (1) whose primary function is the presentation of formal instruction and (2) that normally maintains a regular faculty and curriculum and (3) normally has a regularly enrolled body of students in attendance at the place where it carries on its educational activities.

Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the terms of a particular scholarship fund, scholarships shall not be awarded to students enrolled in online, digital, or other types of distance-learning institutions.

**No Relatives.** Scholarships shall not be awarded to applicants who are close relatives of any of the following: (a) the donor(s) who created this fund; provided, however, that if the donor is a company or organization, then close relatives of employees or members of the organization may be awarded a scholarship as long as the recipient is not a close relative of any outside selection committee member or officer or board member of the company or organization that created the scholarship fund; (b) a member of a selection committee (either outside selection committee or Foundation's Scholarship Selection Committee); (c) a member of the Board of Directors of Marion Community Foundation; or, (d) an employee of Marion Community Foundation. For purposes of this paragraph, a "close relative" is a spouse, child, grandchild, great-grandchild, parent, grandparent, sibling or half-sibling, and step- or spouse of any of the preceding.

The Foundation may do any combination of the following for any unused portion of a scholarship award that is forfeited or returned:

Decide to hold and apply the amount to a new eligible educational institution as long as the student enrolls in such new eligible educational institution no later than the immediately following spring term (provided, however, that the all the terms, requirements, and criteria of the particular scholarship fund continue to be met, especially any requirements that may relate to a specified eligible educational institution).

Be extended to the following academic year for the recipient.

Retain or return the amount to the principal of the fund.

Award part or all of the unused amount to a different recipient in the current scholarship application year.

Hold the unused amount and make it available to be awarded to a new recipient(s) in the next succeeding scholarship application year.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION RULES AND GUIDELINES**

Applicants who fail to fully complete the scholarship application by the deadline will not be considered in the review process and are ineligible to receive a scholarship award. Incomplete FAFSA information will not be considered as an excuse for failure to submit the application by the deadline. Students whose parents have not received the appropriate tax information or documentation in time must still complete the FAFSA in the manner provided under such circumstances and submit their FAFSA/SAR/EFC information to the Foundation prior to the scholarship application deadline.

**EXCEPTION:** Applicants may elect to not include the applicant's FAFSA or standardized test score information in the applicant's application, but such election and failure to include such information may disqualify such applicant from the terms of particular scholarship criteria and requirements and Foundation's Scholarship Committee may take into consideration - to the detriment of the applicant - the lack of FAFSA or standardized test score information when making its award decisions.

The preceding general rule shall be followed as much as possible; however, any of the following may be considered by the Scholarship Committee in its sole discretion as an exception to the above general rule, in which case the Scholarship Committee may permit an application to be filed after the deadline:

Applicants whose school guidance counselor or other school, college, or university official contacts the Foundation before the application deadline and informs the Foundation that the school, college, or university was unable to submit required information or documentation due to an unavoidable event such as, but not necessarily limited to, a mechanical or electronic failure or problem with its data transmission system.

The unexpected death or physical incapability of a recommender, school guidance counselor, or other school, college, or university official who was responsible for forwarding required information or documentation to the Foundation if the Foundation is notified before the application deadline of the facts related to such incapability.

**Legal non-citizens who are incapable by law of completing the FAFSA.**

**An act of God or other natural disaster that prohibited the completion of the application by the deadline.**

**Applicants who are not a U.S. citizen are not eligible for a scholarship award. The following applicants who are not a U.S. citizen are excepted from this general rule and are eligible for a scholarship award:**

**Persons who have been granted legal status in the United States (for example, but not limited to, a lawful permanent resident, a lawful conditional permanent resident, or a lawful temporary visitor); or,**

**Persons who possess a valid certificate of non-citizen national status issued by the U.S. Secretary of State or U.S. Nationals.**

**If the terms, requirements, and criteria of a particular scholarship fund expressly state that an applicant must have attended a specifically named high school, then students who have been "home schooled" or students who have been enrolled in a "community school" (including, but not limited to, so-called virtual schools, online schools, or e-schools) or a state recognized "private religious school" or "chartered non-public school" are not eligible for awards from that particular scholarship fund. If the terms, requirements, and criteria of a scholarship fund do not expressly state that an applicant must have attended a specifically named high school, then students who have been "home schooled" or students who have been enrolled in a "community school" or a state recognized "private religious school" or "chartered non-public school" will be eligible for consideration for a scholarship award. "Community school" and state recognized "private religious schools" and "chartered non-public school" have the meanings proscribed to them by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, and the Ohio Department of Education.**

**All applicants will give permission to the Marion Community Foundation staff and Scholarship Committee to communicate with any person regarding the applicant's academic and financial information, or any other information the staff or committee deems necessary.**

**A high school student who completes his or her high school graduation requirements earlier than the standard completion date (e.g., a student who completes all high school graduation requirements in fewer than eight standard terms), but who does not receive a diploma or "graduate" at such time, shall be treated as a "senior and candidate for graduation" during the Foundation's scholarship application process immediately following the student's completion of his or her graduation requirements. Conversely, a high school student who completes his or her high school graduation requirements earlier than the standard completion date (e.g., a student who completes all high school graduation requirements in fewer than eight standard terms), but who does receive a diploma and "graduates" at such time, shall be treated as a "graduate" during the Foundation's scholarship application process immediately following the student's completion of his or her graduation requirements.**

**Foundation will use the information as submitted by the applicant on the application when reviewing and determining whether the applicant meets the criteria and requirements of Foundation's various scholarships.**

**Foundation will use the applicant's name exactly as submitted by the applicant on the application when making award notifications, correspondence, awards certificates, award ceremonies, and any promotion in print or otherwise unless the applicant specifically notifies Foundation in writing of a different name to use.**

**Foundation will rely on the good faith integrity of the applicant to submit all information on the application in an honest and accurate manner and the applicant shall attest to the honesty, accuracy, and integrity of the application at the time the application is submitted. If Foundation becomes aware of any lack of honesty, accuracy, or integrity in the application, Foundation may take any action it deems appropriate or necessary, including rejection of the application or revocation of any scholarship awarded.**

**Applicants are not permitted to use generative AI to complete the essays or any portion of this application.**

**By submitting an application, the applicant agrees to all the guidelines, procedures, and requirements of Foundation's Scholarship Program Guidelines and Procedures.**

Scholarship awards may only be payable to a non-profit, federally tax exempt eligible educational institution as defined by the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations. Recipients must meet all the requirements and criteria of the scholarship to which they were awarded.

Proof of a student's grade point average shall be based upon an official school transcript that has been received by the Foundation with the student's application. It is the recipient's sole and absolute responsibility to obtain such transcript and ensure its receipt by the Foundation before the deadline.

A recipient must be a "candidate for a degree" enrolled and in good standing at his or her "eligible educational institution" (as those terms are defined herein and by the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations) to be eligible to receive a scholarship award.

Proof of a student's enrollment and status shall be based upon official school documentation that has been received by the Foundation no later than thirty (30) days after the start of the term. It is the recipient's sole and absolute responsibility to obtain such documentation and ensure its receipt by the Foundation before the deadline.

Recipients must deliver to the Foundation a copy of their tuition and fee statement from their eligible educational institution no later than thirty (30) days after the start of the term. Failure to deliver said tuition and fee statement will result in the rescission and revocation of the scholarship award.

A scholarship award to a recipient may be rescinded or revoked, in the sole and absolute and absolute discretion and judgment by a majority of the Scholarship Committee of the Foundation, if the recipient:

- Fails to demonstrate high standards of citizenship.

- Fails to demonstrate high standards of moral character.

- Has been charged with, pled guilty to, or found guilty by a court of law of any criminal offense other than a minor traffic violation.

- Is not in good standing or is the current subject of an academic, honor code, or disciplinary violation at his or her eligible educational institution.

- Violates, or is in noncompliance of, any provision of the Foundation's policies, guidelines, rules, or the Letter of Transmittal governing the particular scholarship awarded to the recipient.

A recipient shall notify the Foundation before September 1 if the Recipient does not need part or all of the scholarship award for any reason. In such case, the scholarship award will be rescinded and revoked and any monies paid shall be refunded and returned unless the recipient avails himself or herself of the option available in Paragraph (H).

Before September 1, a recipient may request, by written application to the Foundation, any excess and unused money from a scholarship award in any particular academic year be extended to the following academic year. The Scholarship Committee, in its sole and absolute discretion and judgment, may grant such extension. If the student makes no contact or does not respond to Foundation information requests by September 1, Foundation will rescind the scholarship award and any unused money from a scholarship award shall be forfeited and returned to, or retained by, the Foundation.

A recipient who withdraws for fall term from his or her eligible educational institution may request, by written application before October 15 to the Foundation, to have the balance of any unused amount of a scholarship award held and applied to a new eligible educational institution as long as the student enrolls in such new eligible educational institution no later than the immediately following spring term. A recipient who withdraws for spring term from his or her eligible educational institution may request, by written application before March 1 to the Foundation, to have the balance of any unused amount of a scholarship award held and applied to a new eligible educational institution as long as the student enrolls in such new eligible educational institution no later than the immediately following fall term. If the recipient is enrolled and in good standing at such new eligible educational institution, then the remaining balance of the unused amount of the scholarship award will be applied to the tuition and fees at the new eligible educational institution (provided, however, that all the terms, requirements, and criteria of the particular scholarship fund continue to be met, especially any requirements that may relate to a specified college, university, or eligible educational institution). If the student makes no contact or does not respond to Foundation information requests by September 1, Foundation will rescind the scholarship award and any unused money from a scholarship award shall be forfeited and returned to, or retained by, the Foundation.

The Foundation's "scholarship year" is comprised of the standard university Fall and Spring terms. Scholarship awards shall not be applied to any summer term before the recipient's initial fall or spring term. Scholarship awards will be applied to only regular fall through spring terms and may not be applied to special terms, including summer terms, except as follows:

If the full amount of a scholarship award is not used for the recipient's fall and spring terms, then any excess amount may be applied to the immediately succeeding summer term if the recipient notifies Foundation that recipient will be attending a summer term. Such notification must be received by Foundation no later than March 1.

Scholarship awards may be used for summer terms following the recipient's initial fall or spring term if the recipient notifies Foundation in sufficient time (such time to be determined in Foundation's sole discretion).

Foundation may decide, in its sole discretion and authority, to not apply any scholarship award to a summer term.

All other rules and criteria in this document continue to apply.

Study abroad programs may be funded through Foundation scholarships as long as those programs meet the scholarship criteria set forth in the agreement and herein. If a recipient declines all or part of a scholarship award for any reason, the recipient shall immediately notify the Foundation in writing of such declination. In such case, the scholarship award, or part thereof, shall be revoked and rescinded and any monies paid shall be returned.

Recipients shall immediately notify the Foundation in writing of any violation of the rules and criteria of their particular scholarship and of the above rules.

Recipients shall immediately notify the Foundation in writing of any other event that might reasonably be expected to affect the recipient's continued eligibility for a scholarship.

Recipients shall cooperate with the Foundation to assure full disclosure.

All recipients shall give permission to the Marion Community Foundation staff and Scholarship Committee to communicate with any person regarding the applicant's academic, financial, or any other personal information the staff or committee deems necessary.

All recipients shall give their consent to use the recipient's name, photograph, and academic and personal information for any publicity purposes the Foundation deems appropriate. All applicants and recipients shall give their consent to allow the staff of Marion Community Foundation to obtain, collect, use, and disclose the applicant's or recipient's personal and academic data and information. All applicants and recipients shall give their consent for staff of Marion Community Foundation to contact any person (including, but not limited to, parents, guardians, teachers, guidance counselors, school administrators, and scholarship selection committee members) and discuss any personal data or information about the applicant or recipient. All applicants and recipients shall give their consent to allow any third parties to disclose to Marion Community Foundation all personal and academic data and information about the applicant or recipient.

Failure of a recipient to meet any of the rules or criteria of a specific scholarship, or to meet any of the above rules or criteria, or to submit any required documentation within a determined period of time, in the sole and absolute discretion of the Foundation's Board of Directors or its Scholarship Committee, may result in the rescission, revocation, and return of the Recipient's scholarship award. The Foundation, either through its Board of Directors or its Scholarship Committee, at such board's or committee's sole and absolute discretion, may waive the violation of any rules and criteria.

#### **MULTI-YEAR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS: ADDITIONAL SPECIAL RULES**

Students will be notified if their award is for a single year or renewable for multiple years.

Unless specifically stated in the scholarship fund agreement that a multi-year scholarship is automatically renewed, multi-year scholarship awards will be considered as "renewable" based upon the following criteria:

Recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. If, at any time, a recipient does not maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5, then the entire remaining balance of the scholarship awarded shall be rescinded and revoked and the recipient shall not be allowed to renew or re-apply for the particular multi-year scholarship to which they were awarded. Proof of a student's grade point average shall be based upon an official school transcript that has been received by the Foundation no later than June 15 (or at such other times as requested by the Foundation). It is the recipient's sole and absolute responsibility to obtain such transcript and ensure its receipt by the Foundation before the deadline.

A recipient must be a "candidate for a degree" enrolled and in good standing at his or her "eligible educational institution" (as those terms are defined herein and by the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations) to be eligible to receive a scholarship award. Proof of a student's enrollment and status shall be based upon official school documentation that has been received by the Foundation no later than thirty (30) days after the start of the term. It is the recipient's sole and absolute responsibility to obtain such documentation and ensure its receipt by the Foundation before the deadline.

Recipients must deliver to the Foundation a copy of their tuition and fee statement from their eligible educational institution no later than thirty (30) days after the start of the term.

Because multi-year scholarship awards are "renewable" and not automatically renewed, the Foundation will not permit potential awards from future years to be applied to a current year to pay tuition, fees, and expenses that are not fully covered by the current year scholarship award.

Unless otherwise specifically stated in the scholarship fund agreement's requirements and criteria, a multi-year scholarship award will not be awarded for a period longer than four (4) successive academic years. A recipient who completes his or her degree in less than four (4) academic years forfeits any outstanding scholarship award and is not entitled to renew any multi-year scholarship award *unless* the recipient is enrolled as a "candidate for a degree" at a "qualified educational institution," in which case the scholarship award may be renewed for an additional year or years not to exceed a total of four (4) successive academic years.

Exception: A recipient who is participating in a school-sponsored co-op program or other school-sponsored program in which tuition and fees are partially or fully waived or not required may notify the Foundation of such fact and the Scholarship Committee, in its sole and absolute discretion and judgment, may extend the multi-year award for one (1) additional year.



**A multi-year scholarship will not be awarded to a student who is any of the following as determined in the sole and absolute and absolute discretion and judgment by a majority of the Scholarship Committee of the Foundation:**

**Fails to demonstrate high standards of citizenship.**

**Fails to demonstrate high standards of moral character.**

**Has been charged with, pled guilty to, or found guilty by a court of law of any criminal offense other than a minor traffic violation.**

**Is not in good standing or is the current subject of an academic, honor code, or disciplinary violation at his or her eligible educational institution.**

**Recipients shall immediately notify the Foundation in writing of any violation of the rules and criteria of their particular scholarship and of the above rules.**

**Recipients shall immediately notify the Foundation in writing of any other event that might reasonably be expected to affect the recipient's continued eligibility for a scholarship.**

**Recipients shall cooperate with the Foundation to assure full disclosure.**

**Failure of a recipient to meet any of the rules or criteria of a specific scholarship or of any of the above rules or criteria, in the sole and absolute discretion of the Foundation's Board of Directors or its Scholarship Committee, may result in the rescission, revocation, and return of the recipient's scholarship award.**

**The Foundation, either through its Board of Directors or its Scholarship Committee, at such board's or committee's sole and absolute discretion, may waive the violation of any rules and criteria.**

**Adopted: February 26, 2015; Modified April 26, 2018; Modified June 1, 2020; Modified October 27, 2022; Modified August 24, 2023; Modified December 16, 2024.**

## **Submit Application**

## Submit Application

I have read, understand, and agree to the terms (shown below) to submit a Marion Community Foundation scholarship.

**Electronic Signature** (type full name) \*

**Terms to Submit Marion Community Foundation Scholarship Application:**

**In submitting this application to Marion Community Foundation, I certify that all the information provided is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge.**

**If I am selected as a recipient of a Marion Community Foundation scholarship, I authorize the Foundation and its employees to contact my school, scholarship donor(s), and parents/guardians and to request and obtain any information deemed necessary by Marion Community Foundation unless expressly notified otherwise in writing during the term of this application and during the school term covered by any award.**

**I understand scholarship awards will be paid directly to an accredited educational institution I am attending and may only be used toward tuition, fees required for enrollment, and books, supplies, and equipment required for instruction and billed directly by the institution.**

**If selected to receive a scholarship, I authorize the Marion Community Foundation to provide my contact information to fund creators, donors and/or other persons associated with the Marion Community Foundation scholarship program.**

**If selected to receive a scholarship, I authorize the Marion Community Foundation to use my name, likeness and image, and any other application information, excluding financial information, for any purpose, in any media form and type of publication, including annual reports, newsletters, and social media.**

**I understand that any false statements made herein will void this application and I will be ineligible for a scholarship from the Marion Community Foundation and any scholarship awarded may be revoked.**

**I understand this application becomes the property of Marion Community Foundation.**