



2021 Statewide College Scholarship Program

To: All Scholarship Applicants
From: Sweet Home FCU - Korrie
RE: How to apply for a college scholarship

Thank you for your interest in our scholarship program, offered in partnership with the New York Credit Union Association. Please review the following instructions carefully before completing your application.

Note: You must be a member of a participating New York credit union to apply for a college scholarship through this program. If you are not currently a member, please call Sweet Home FCU at (716) 691-9187 to learn how to join.

1. Complete and save the scholarship application form. Please use only the space provided on the form to answer the questions. Other than where specified on the application form, no attachments, resumes, pictures or other materials of any kind should be submitted or used to answer the questions.
2. You and your parent or guardian **must sign** the Certification and Release Authorization on the back page of the application form.
3. You must obtain a credit union verification code from your credit union in order to verify eligibility.
4. Submit your application online at: <https://www.nycua.org/more/scholarship-program/2-uncategorised/1335-college-scholarship-program-applicants> by **January 8, 2021**, along with:
 - a high school transcript documenting your GPA for grades 9-11;
 - an SAT/PSAT/ACT transcript; and
 - an essay response.

If any portion is incomplete or not included, the application will not be considered.

Please save and upload the documents as three separate files:

1. Scholarship Application
2. High School Transcript and SAT/PSAT/ACT scores
3. Essay

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a Member Service Representative at (716) 691-9187. Winner notifications will be sent in May 2021. Good luck and we look forward to receiving your application!

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Credit Union: _____ Credit Union Verification Code: _____



■ The Award

- The Sweet Home Federal Credit Union will award up to \$3,000 in scholarships.
- The Erie-Niagara Chapter of the New York Credit Union Association will award up to \$1,500 in scholarships.
- The New York Credit Union Association awards scholarships to be paid jointly to the student and educational institution. There will be no exceptions. The Funds may be used towards tuition, room and board, books, school supplies, etc.

■ Eligibility

The applicant must be a member in good standing of a participating New York credit union who meets all of the following criteria:

- The member is a college-bound high school senior at the time of application.
- The member is attending college for the first time in the fall of 2021.
- The member will be enrolled in either a two- or four-year accredited educational institution.
- The member agrees to use any scholarship funds awarded by January 31, 2022, at an accredited educational institution only.

■ Application Process

To apply, eligible members must complete and save the scholarship application form. Applicants should use only the space provided on the form to answer the questions. Other than specified below, no attachments, resumes, pictures or other material of any kind should be submitted or used to answer the questions.

If an applicant is a member of more than one credit union and submits an application to both, only one application will be scored for a state-level award. Both applications will be considered for any credit union-level awards that may be available.

✓ Check each box after completion.

- 1. The applicant must obtain a credit union verification code from their credit union in order to verify eligibility.
- 2. The application must be submitted with:
 - a high school transcript documenting student's GPA for grades 9–11;
 - an SAT/PSAT/ACT transcript (obtained through the high school guidance office); and
 - an essay response.
- 3. The applicant and his/her parent or guardian must sign the Certification and Release Authorization on the last page of the application form.
- 4. The application, transcripts and essay must be submitted to the New York Credit Union Association by **January 8, 2021**. If any portion is incomplete or missing, the application will not be considered.

USE THIS LINK TO SUBMIT:

<https://www.nycua.org/more/scholarship-program/2-uncategorised/1335-college-scholarship-program-applicants>

(continued)

■ **Selection Process**

Judging will be based on both subjective criteria and weighted, objective criteria. These include academic achievements, extracurricular and community activities, essay, etc.

■ **Application Deadline**

Applications must be submitted to the New York Credit Union Association no later than **January 8, 2021**.

■ **Scholarship Applicant Information**

This application will not be considered unless all information is **completed in full, on this form only**, and all requested documentation is provided.

Please use only the space provided on this form to answer the questions. Do not use any attachments, resumes, pictures or other material of any kind to answer the questions. Please do not include letters of recommendation. Winners will be notified by your credit union in May.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

High School _____ Anticipated Graduation Date ____ / ____ / ____

Name of College You Plan to Attend _____

High School Honors and Awards

Please list honors and awards and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: honor roll, National Honor Society, Who's Who, Principal's awards, science fair awards, college book awards, student/athlete awards, Empire State Games team, Eagle Scout classification, Girl Scouts Gold award.

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- 2. _____ 9 10 11 12 7. _____ 9 10 11 12
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- 4. _____ 9 10 11 12 9. _____ 9 10 11 12
- 5. _____ 9 10 11 12 10. _____ 9 10 11 12

High School Activities

Please list high school activities and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: sports teams, clubs, band, drama, choral, orchestra, yearbook, school newspaper, MathCounts, LifeSmarts, tutoring.

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Community Activities and Volunteer Work

Please list community activities and volunteer work and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: scouting, community service projects, community volunteerism, religious youth groups, youth counseling.

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Leadership Positions Held (elected or appointed)

Please list leadership positions held and the grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: class officer, club officer, sports team leader, scouting leader, student government officer, band/orchestra 1st chair.

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■ Essay

Please respond to the following questions in a comprehensive essay. Your response should be between 300–500 words. Please be sure to cite all sources. **If any portion of the essay is plagiarized, the entire application will be disqualified.** Also, please ensure that you have answered each of the components of the essay. Personal narratives or other unrelated essays will not be eligible for credit.

Question: Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives that exist to serve members, not generate profit. “People helping people” is the philosophical foundation of these institutions. What do you see as the value of this foundation? Please explain.

In addition:

- What makes your credit union different than a for-profit financial institution?;
- How does your **credit union** demonstrate credit union’s “people helping people” philosophy?; and
- If you ran your credit union, what is one new initiative/program you would implement?

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■ Certification and Release Authorization

The following information must be completed for the applicant to be considered for a scholarship award.

- *I certify this information is true, complete and accurate.*
- *I authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.*
- *I agree to use any scholarship funds awarded at an accredited educational institution by January 31, 2022.*
- *I authorize the New York Credit Union Association and _____
to publish my child's name and/or photo for the use of _____
promotional materials, news releases and/or social media.* Credit Union Name

Member Signature (Student) _____ **Date** ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** ____/____/____



strength in members.