



Albany County Democrats “Be the Change” Scholarship Application

What is the “Be the Change” Scholarship?

The cost of continuing education is an extreme concern for many families in our community. This scholarship is designed to help offset those costs. Winners receive a monetary check to be used exclusively for University/college/trade school expenses.

Students apply by filling out demographic information and answering three essay questions. One scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded yearly. All students are encouraged to apply, regardless of party affiliation.

The scholarship was established in 2018, by Albany County Democratic Secretary and Precinct Committeewoman for HD 45-2, Lindsay N. Stoffers. Money is raised for the scholarship through fundraising events and community donations.

The Rules:

*The “Be the Change” Scholarship is awarded to a resident of Albany County who is graduating from high school in the application year and plans to further his/her/their education/training. Qualifying educational programs include Laramie Senior High School, Whiting High School, Rock River High School, and equivalent homeschooling or other certifications. Answers to the written portion of the application must be authored solely by the applicant. The application must be completed in its entirety to be considered for the scholarship. Thoroughly proof-read and edit your application for grammatical errors before submitting. If you have any questions regarding the application instructions and rules for entry, please contact: **BeTheChange.AlbanyCoDems@gmail.com***

Applicants will be evaluated based on evidence of commitment to our community, future goals and vision, general character, financial need, and alignment with Democratic values.

What is the DEADLINE for my entry?

All entries must be in the hands of the Albany County Democrats “Be the Change” Scholarship Committee by midnight on April 1 of the application year. The winner will be notified by May 4, using the contact information provided in the Applicant Information form. The scholarship will be awarded at the Albany County Democrats Central Committee meeting in May of the application year.

Where Should I Submit my Entry?

All entries should be submitted electronically via GoogleForms: <https://forms.gle/BJGXUosEKurRRAPb7>

or mailed to the following address, and must include completed Applicant Information form (see p. 2), three essay responses (see essay questions on p. 3), and three reference letters (see References section of p.2).

Albany County Democrats

ATTN: Be the Change Scholarship Committee

PO Box 782

Laramie, Wyoming 82073

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First M.I.

Legal Guardian: _____

Last First M.I.

Address: _____

<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
-------------	--------------	-----------------

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Birth Date: / / Grade:

How did you hear about the scholarship:

Do you plan to attend
University/College/Trade School after
graduation? YES NO YES NO
 ☐ ☐ Are you registered voter? ☐ ☐

Will you complete High School this year? YES NO If no, explain?

Education	
1	High school or less
2	Some college
3	Bachelor's degree
4	Master's degree
5	Doctorate

Name of High School or Program: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Name of School Counselor: _____

References

List three professional references and include three reference letters with your application.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

How long have you known this person? _____ In what capacity? _____

Disclaimer and Signature

I have read and understand the Albany County Democrats "Be the Change" Scholarship rules outlined on p.1.

I certify that I am the sole author of the enclosed application entry and that I have only entered the scholarship once yearly, if otherwise eligible.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

With this scholarship, the Albany County Democratic Party seeks to promote the values and principles articulated in the Platform (see below) and the educational advancement of qualifying students subscribing to those principles.

Albany County Democratic Platform

Government only works when citizens take ownership.

We believe “government” is not some alien force, but, if done correctly, is everyone coming together to look out for one another and do the right thing. The Constitution gives us each an equal vote. We must be active participants. To maintain a free and fair society, it is our responsibility to forge a fair and honest government and to hold ourselves accountable for results.

Our Government and services should reflect us, the people.

We, the people, are the government. Let us join forces for our mutual benefit. We’re all in this together.

People and the planet are more valuable than short-term profit.

We have a responsibility to leave the world in as good or better shape than we find it. We want our children and our children’s children to have the clean air, clean water, healthy landscapes, and abundant wildlife that we enjoy. Sustainable economic gain need not come at the expense of environmental quality.

We are also citizens of the world.

We reject the philosophy that the United States gains through others’ loss. We accept our responsibility to share with the rest of the world the civil rights and community commitments we enjoy.

Finally, we encourage all citizens to get involved.

Hold our elected representatives accountable.

Volunteer for boards and commissions.

Run for Office.

Above all- VOTE!

For a copy of the complete platform, please visit our website at: www.AlbanyCountyDems.org

“Be the Change” Scholarship- Essay Question #1

Tell us about yourself. Briefly describe your background, community involvement and how your educational goals align with Democratic values.

“Be the Change” Scholarship- Essay Question #2

If you had the authority to change your school and/or community in a positive way, what specific changes would you make? Describe how and why these changes would be important for your community.

“Be the Change” Scholarship- Essay Question #3

What impact would this scholarship have on your education? Why would this scholarship be helpful to you?

****Please be sure to answer each question thoughtfully and thoroughly. We ask that your responses, for the three questions combined, do not exceed 2000 words.***

COVID-19 DISCLAIMER: The Scholarship Committee recognizes that certain difficulties or barriers may occur in submitting your application due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact the committee with any questions or concerns related to your application: ***BetheChange.AlbanyCoDems@gmail.com***