



Circle Star Firearms & Outdoors Scholarship SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



The goal of this scholarship application is to support students in our local community who have shown dedication, leadership, and GRIT. The Circle Star Firearms & Outdoors team will review and assess all applications.

DEADLINE: All applications must be submitted to the counselor's office by the end of the school day on **Friday, March 27, 2026.**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

LEGAL NAME: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

FATHER/GUARDIAN OCCUPATION: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

MOTHER/GUARDIAN OCCUPATION: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS ATTENDING COLLEGE NEXT YEAR: _____

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING COLLEGE NEXT YEAR: _____

SCHOLASTIC INFORMATION

GRADUATION DATE: _____

CLASS RANK: _____ out of _____ DATE OF RANKING: _____

CUMULATIVE NUMERIC AVERAGE (100-point scale): _____

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: _____ ON WHAT SCALE? _____

MEMBER OF NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY: Yes No

List all Honors, Pre-AP, AP, and Dual Credit courses taken for high school credit:

List your current class schedule:

1. _____ 5. _____
2. _____ 6. _____
3. _____ 7. _____
4. _____ 8. _____

POST SECONDARY INFORMATION

HAVE YOU BEEN ACCEPTED TO A COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL? Yes No

DO YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING A TRADE SCHOOL? Yes No

NAME OF COLLEGE/VOCATIONAL SCHOOL: _____

ANTICIPATED MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY: _____

SAT SCORE: _____

ACT SCORE: _____

OTHER: _____

HOW DO YOU PLAN ON PAYING FOR YOUR EDUCATION?

____ % parents ____ % savings ____ % part time work ____ % financial aid/scholarships

____ % other (explain) _____

LEADERSHIP, EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ATHLETICS, VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

In the space below, list any activities and clubs/organizations participated in, offices held, and awards received in high school. If repetitive awards/recognition or activity, you may indicate the years achieved.

Thank you for your interest in the Circle Star Firearms & Outdoors Scholarship. To help us learn more about you and how this scholarship can support your educational and personal goals, please respond to the following essay prompt.

Essay Requirements:

- Word Count: 500-1,000 words
- Typed and double-spaced, using 12-point font (e.g., Times New Roman)
- Please be sure to include your name and contact information at the top of your essay.

Essay Prompt:

We understand that each applicant has their own unique journey. For this essay, we would like to hear about the challenges you have faced and how they have shaped your path toward higher education. This could include obstacles related to financial hardships, personal struggles, academic setbacks, or any other challenges that have impacted your life.

Please address the following questions in your essay:

1. **What challenges have you faced in your life (financial, personal, academic, etc.) that have impacted your ability to pursue higher education?**
 - Describe specific situations or events that have influenced your education and personal growth.
2. **How have you worked to overcome these challenges?**
 - Discuss the actions you've taken to address these obstacles. This could include seeking support, developing resilience, or finding creative solutions to overcome barriers.
3. **What are your educational and career goals, and how will this scholarship help you achieve them?**
 - Explain how receiving this scholarship will impact your ability to pursue your dreams. Describe your aspirations for the future and how this scholarship fits into your plans.
4. **What qualities or experiences do you believe make you a strong candidate for this scholarship?**
 - Highlight any experiences, skills, or qualities that demonstrate your determination, commitment to education, and ability to succeed despite challenges.
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Additional Instructions:

- Be sincere and reflective in your writing. We are interested in understanding who you are, your journey, and how you've demonstrated perseverance and growth.
- While we encourage applicants to be honest and personal, please ensure your essay is clear, organized, and well-written.

Thank you for sharing your story with us. We look forward to reviewing your application and supporting you on your educational journey.

Circle Star Firearms & Outdoors Application Instructions:

1. Print your completed application.
2. Applicant along with his/her parent or legal guardian, must sign the application.
3. Include Transcript
4. Include Essay
5. Return to the counselor's office on or before March 27, 2026

Scholarship Essay Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Satisfactory (2)	Needs Improvement (1)	Points
Response to Prompt	Thoroughly answers all parts of the prompt with clear, well-developed examples. Demonstrates deep reflection on challenges faced and how they were overcome.	Answers most parts of the prompt clearly, with relevant examples. Reflects on challenges and solutions, though some areas lack depth.	Answers most of the prompt, but some parts are underdeveloped or unclear. Lacks sufficient detail or reflection on challenges and solutions.	Fails to fully address the prompt or provides vague or irrelevant responses. Lacks reflection or detail on challenges and solutions.	/4
Clarity & Focus	Ideas are very clear and well-articulated. The essay stays focused throughout, and each paragraph transitions smoothly.	Ideas are clear, and the essay is mostly focused. Some minor lapses in clarity or focus, but the main points are easy to follow.	Some sections of the essay lack clarity, and there are a few tangents or off-topic ideas. Transitions between paragraphs are somewhat abrupt.	Essay lacks clarity, and several sections are unfocused. Ideas may be difficult to follow, with weak transitions between paragraphs.	/4
Depth of Reflection	Demonstrates deep personal insight into challenges faced and how they were overcome. Shows growth, resilience, and strong determination.	Provides thoughtful reflection on challenges and solutions, with evidence of growth and resilience. Some areas could be developed further.	Offers basic reflection on challenges and solutions but lacks depth. Minimal demonstration of growth or resilience.	Minimal or superficial reflection on challenges. Lacks any clear evidence of growth, resilience, or learning.	/4
Organization & Structure	The essay is very well-organized, with a strong introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion. Ideas flow logically.	The essay is organized, with clear sections. There may be minor issues with organization or flow, but overall the structure is solid.	The organization is somewhat unclear, and ideas may be difficult to follow at times. Some paragraphs feel out of place or disconnected.	The essay lacks a clear structure. Ideas are disorganized, and the essay may feel scattered or difficult to follow.	/3
Writing Quality & Grammar	Writing is excellent, with minimal or no grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. Sentence structure is varied and sophisticated.	Writing is strong with only a few minor grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. Sentence structure is clear and effective.	Writing is generally clear, but there are several grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. Sentence structure may be repetitive or awkward.	Writing is unclear due to frequent grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. Sentence structure may hinder readability.	/3
Originality & Creativity	The essay is highly original, showing a unique perspective and creative thinking. The writer stands out in their approach.	The essay is mostly original, with some unique ideas or perspectives. Writer shows some creativity in their approach.	The essay lacks originality and relies heavily on clichés or generic responses. Minimal creativity.	The essay lacks originality and creativity. Many ideas are unoriginal or overly common.	/2
Adherence to Guidelines	Follows all instructions and formatting requirements (word count, font, spacing, etc.).	Follows most instructions but may have minor deviations from formatting requirements.	Adheres to some instructions but deviates from formatting or essay length requirements.	Does not adhere to essay guidelines (e.g., word count, formatting).	/2

Total Points Possible : 20

Score Interpretation :

- 18-20 Points:** Excellent. The essay demonstrates exceptional writing, clear focus, deep reflection, and an organized structure. This applicant has provided strong evidence of overcoming challenges and a clear path forward.
- 14-17 Points:** Good. The essay is well-written and provides a solid response to the prompt. Some areas could be improved in terms of depth or organization, but the overall effort is commendable.
- 10-13 Points:** Satisfactory. The essay provides a basic response, but lacks in-depth analysis or clear structure. There is room for improvement in writing quality and reflection.
- Below 10 Points:** Needs Improvement. The essay fails to clearly address the prompt or lacks significant depth and organization. The writing quality or clarity may need significant improvement.