

Texas Society
Order of Confederate Rose™, Inc.



Marilyn C. Sweeney

TSOCR 2026 Scholarship

Essay Contest Application

The Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose (TSOCR) recognizes that our young people are our local, state and national leaders of tomorrow. We strive to make them aware of our historical and educational purposes through our scholarship opportunity. The TSOCR Scholarship Award Program is designed to award annually a scholarship to a graduating public, private or home school senior who will be attending a post-secondary institution (University, junior college or trade school). The amount of this award is \$2,000.00.

The application and requirements for this scholarship essay contest are as follows:

- Students will write an essay on a given topic and submit their essay with other required documentation (see essay guidelines).
- The scholarship winner will be selected based on the essay. In case of a tie, the Scholarship Committee members will review all applications and make a selection based on the entrant's supporting documentation. Each Chapter is asked to distribute the scholarship packet to interested students in their area.
- The Application packet and essay must be sent by U.S. mail and **postmarked no later than April 15, 2026** and mailed to the address below:

**Mrs. Audrey Wallace
1306 Amherst Dr.
Denton, TX 76201**

Selection of the winner will be made by May 15, 2026, and will be notified by e-mail and by letter on/after May 15, 2026. Winning entrant should plan to attend

the TSOCR Annual Meeting to accept their award. The winner will be advised of location and time.

Application, essay guidelines and judging criteria are attached.

TSOCR 2026 Scholarship Guidelines

Students will write a research essay with a minimum of three pages but not to exceed six pages on the following topic:

The Effect of the War Between the States on the Southern Way of Life

The essay should include but is not limited to:

1. Discuss how the War Between the States changed the Southern way of life. Describe life in the South before, during, and after the war. How did life change? Were there things that stayed the same?
2. Examples of changes discussed may include:
 - a Roles of men and women
 - b Agriculture and farming
 - c Relationships between family members
 - d Occupations
 - e Financial situations
 - f Other changes noted
3. Please include and discuss ***at least 3*** notable changes that occurred.

ESSAY GUIDELINES

1. Research the selected topic and stay within the specified page limit.
2. Cover page – title and author's name centered to the middle of the page.
3. Text – Essay must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman 1-inch margins, pages numbered.
4. Length – Minimum of three pages but not to exceed six (not including Bibliography).
5. Provide Bibliography/End Notes.
6. Sources – Minimum of five sources cited. Internet can be used for a maximum of two sources; others should be published materials (books, magazine articles, speeches, etc.).

JUDGING CRITERIA

1. Content (**60**); Thesis Statement (20), Supporting ideas (20), Conclusion (20)
2. Form/Quality of writing (**20**); Grammar (5), Organization (5), Style (5), Bibliography/Endnotes (5)
3. Overall presentation (**20**); Effectiveness (10), creativity (10)
4. Total possible score = **100**

APPLICATION PACKET SUBMISSION CONTENTS

1. **Essay**
2. **Two letters of recommendation** from any of the following: teacher, employer, pastor or persons from an organization in which you are a member. Letters are to be no longer than one page 8 ½ x 11 inches double spaced typed.
3. **A biographical letter** which includes information about yourself, family, activities, future goals and the reason for applying. Letters are to be no longer than one page 8 ½ x 11 inches double spaced typed.
4. **Application information form.**

Application must be postmarked no later than **April 15, 2026**. Packets, with the above requirements, are to be sent by U.S. Mail to:

**Mrs. Audrey Wallace
1306 Amherst Dr.
Denton, TX 76201**

The essay winner will be contacted on or after May 15, 2026, and invited to come to the TSOCR Annual Meeting. The time, place and date to be advised. Payment of \$1,000.00 will be made to the winner's school after proof of 30 days of enrollment and \$1,000.00 paid for second semester, with proof of 2.5 GPA at the end of the first semester. The TSOCR Scholarship winner will be given the procedure for submitting the proof by TSOCR Treasurer.

MARILYN C. SWEENEY

2026 TSOGR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

High School: _____ Graduation Date: _____

College Selected: _____

City/State: _____ Admission Semester: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The purpose of the Marilyn C. Sweeney Scholarship is to provide \$2,000 to a graduating high school senior. Applicant must plan to further their education at a college/university, technical or vocational school.

Attach to the application:

1. Essay
2. Recommendation letters
3. Biographical letter