

The Bastrop Pride Scholarship For Bastrop County ISD Highschoolers

Deadline: February 23, 2026

Amount of Award: \$500

Eligibility Requirements

Bastrop Pride in honor of all LGBTQIA+ people of rural and developing areas, has created and invites applications for the Bastrop Pride Scholarship, awarded to up to four students of Bastrop County ISDs who:

- Are planning to attend an associates, trades or bachelor's program of college or university, or some form of postsecondary education development
- Can articulate a goal to make an impact in their chosen community in line with the belief of service held by Bastrop Pride

Applicants will be considered equally regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin or handicap status.

Application Requirements

To apply for this scholarship, applicants must:

1. Read the information about Bastrop Pride on the last page of this application
2. Complete the application form
3. Submit proof of community service or volunteer hours
4. Complete a brief essay as explained in Section IV

Questions can be directed to and the application submitted to the Bastrop County email [education@bastroppride.org].

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Section I: Identification Data

1. Student Name _____
2. Address _____
3. Phone Number _____
4. Current High School _____
5. Postsecondary Education where you will further your development and/or career focus

Section II: Activities and Employment

1. School and Community Related Activities. Identify leadership roles.

2. Work Experience, including farm work, family business

Section III: Proof of Community Service or Volunteer Hours

Please provide photographs/scans of signed forms of volunteer hours. The name of the organization or business and a contact at that place.

Section IV: Essay

Complete a brief (less than two pages) essay explaining the characteristics or actions that you consider important in making a difference in your community where you live. Bastrop Pride's mission is to cultivate a community of aid, mutual respect, and promotion of living one's truest life, and your essay should illustrate your plans to give back and serve your community and others through professional and academic development.

Section V: Certification

This is to certify that the information contained in this application is true to the best of my knowledge. Falsification automatically disqualifies the applicant.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

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Guidelines for the Awarding of the Bastrop Pride Scholarships

The following guidelines shall be utilized in awarding the scholarships:

- 1) The scholarship shall be named the Bastrop Pride Scholarship.
- 2) The scholarship shall be awarded by year to a high school student, from an ISD of Bastrop County (Bastrop, Elgin, Smithville, McDade), who meets the criteria listed on the scholarship application.
- 3) The application form will be available on the Bastrop Pride website and also distributed to the ISD college and career departments on the first day of each fall semester. It will be due to Bastrop Pride by email no later than **March 31st**.
- 4) The scholarship will not be awarded if Bastrop Pride funds are not available to fund it.
- 5) The nominees will be reviewed and the winners selected on the basis of the following criteria:
 - a) Academic excellence
 - b) Financial need
 - c) Community service and volunteering
 - d) Honors, accomplishments and work history
 - e) Student essay illustrating how the student will contribute like Bastrop Pride does to their community.

All criteria will be weighted equally.

- 6) Once the winners have been determined, the scholarship winners will receive an award letter explaining the process of the student claiming the award. Typically, a scholarship check will be issued to the student. A copy of the award letter will be kept on file by Bastrop Pride and also given to the winner's ISD Guidance/Counselor's Office.
- 7) The scholarship recipient will be notified before the end of the following month after the deadline.
- 8) These guidelines can only be changed by Bastrop Pride who has established and funded the scholarship.

The Bastrop Pride Scholarship

Bastrop Pride's mission is to create and foster community for LGBTQIA+ members, their families, their friends, and allies and raise awareness of LGBTQIA+ issues in Bastrop County, TX and the surrounding area. We're here to celebrate all that makes us unique and all that brings us together.

Bastrop Pride is committed to increasing visibility and decreasing prejudice as we move into our fifth year and refine our organizational goals. The primary goal is to ramp-up providing resources and educational activities for the community to 50% of what Bastrop Pride engages in. This will include, but not limited to

- reaching out to allies advancing visibility within Bastrop County
- accessibility for free HIV/AIDS testing (partnering with other non-profits such as Kind Clinic)
- providing online & in-person literature in the realm of education, well-being and visibility

Given the rural nature of Bastrop County, we will be focused on investing in more Virtual Events for group discussions, books clubs and visits from subject matter experts.

Bastrop Pride will continue to champion safety and visibility as we work with local organizations to promote the education & well-being of the LGBTQIA+ community in Bastrop.