



Dixon Carter Scholarship

2026 Scholarship Guidelines

Created in 2014 in memory of Rashawnda Dixon and Lucas Carter; the **Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF)** is dedicated to awarding Middle Tennessee students with scholarships to pursue higher education. Through gifts provided by community donors and the contributions from family and friends, we annually award several financial scholarships to advance the education of males and females who are graduating seniors of Middle Tennessee high schools.

The **Mission** of Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund is to **BUILD** a collaborative network of diverse stakeholders to support individuals as they pursue higher education.

The **Vision** of Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund is to **IMPACT** the lives of others and make an impact that cannot be erased by providing support and financial assistance to graduating high school seniors willing to pursue higher education on their continued strive for excellence.

The **Purpose** of the Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund is to **SUPPORT** deserving high school graduating seniors intending to pursue a course of study at either a two-year or four-year educational institution. To help others reach their aspirations and dreams, encouraging along the way so that they know that they have others cheering for their success.

For 2026, the Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund's award ceiling is \$4,000, and the individual maximum award is \$1000. DCSF will award approximately four (4) scholarships, ranging in amounts from \$500 - \$1000 per award, based on applicant's college/university choice. Typically, DCSF will award a \$500 scholarship to a student who will be attending a two-year educational institution and \$1000 scholarships to a student who will be attending a four-year educational institution. **Please note: Scholarship funds will be awarded to the recipients upon evidence of registration in an accredited higher educational institution.**

CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY

The applicant MUST...

- Be enrolled as a full-time high school senior in a Middle Tennessee High School
- Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better.
- Demonstrate community involvement, improvement in academics, and desires to attend college.
- Plan to attend an accredited a two-year educational institution or four-year college or university in Fall 2026
- Submit a recent photo with application for use in Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund publications and announcements (*formal senior picture or similar photo preferred*)
- Be willing to attend a scholarship banquet or virtual celebration event.
- Provide proof of college or university enrollment for Fall 2026 (*if awarded scholarship*)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- **DEADLINE** for scholarship applications is **April 24, 2026, 5:00 p.m. CST.**
- Refer to the application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e., reference forms, evidence of GPA, etc.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- If any question does not apply to you in this application, please put N/A in the space.
- Type and print legibly. Illegible applications will not be considered. You may also download a copy of the application online at **www.dixoncarterfund.com**
- You will be notified by email on May 1st regarding the status of your application.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The applicant MUST submit the following materials:

1. Completed Scholarship Application- incomplete applications will not be considered.
 - a. To include a list of:
 - i. Academic honors, awards and membership, community service activities, hobbies, outside interests, extracurricular activities.
 - ii. A brief explanation about yourself and your college plans (college/university/trade school, intended major and anticipated start date). Should not exceed 350 words.
2. An official and recent high school transcript with cumulative grade point average.
3. Two (2) completed, signed and dated Recommendation Forms (non-family member) from choice of high school teachers, administrators, counselors, employers, or individuals with significant knowledge of applicant's experience and involvement(s).
4. Personal Essay: Essay must be at least 1-2 typed pages, double-spaced, 12 pt / Time New Roman font. Essay shall contain no grammatical errors.

“Describe three (3) things you want to accomplish in college & how you will achieve them?”
5. One recent photograph for use in Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund publications and announcements (*Senior picture or similar preferred*)

Please email completed application in one PDF file to:

submit@DixonCarterFund.com

The file name must be (your Last Name - 2026 Application)

Applications submitted after this time will not be considered.

If you have any questions or any concerns, contact the Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund at info@dixoncarterfund.com.

Scholarship Application Checklist

The below items must be attached to the application for the application to qualify to be reviewed by the scholarship committee. The application will not be considered if any item is missing from the checklist below.

No Exceptions

Circle “YES” or “NO” to be sure, you have attached each item as required

Yes	No	Completed application. All questions answered completely.
Yes	No	Most recent official high school transcript. Photocopies of your transcript are acceptable if a guidance counselor or principal signs the transcript.
Yes	No	Two (2) Completed Recommendation Forms (from non-family member)
Yes	No	Personal Essay. Must be at least 1-2 pages, typed, double-spaces, and 12 pt / Times New Roman Font. (Please ensure your essay contains no grammatical errors).
Yes	No	Recent photograph with Photo Release (Senior picture or similar preferred)
Yes	No	Signed Scholarship Rules & Statement of Accuracy

I have applied or plan to attend the following college/university/trade school in the Fall of 2026 (Name, City/State):

*Proof of acceptance or current student enrollment from the above school is **required prior to funds being released.***

What major/minor do you plan to pursue in as you continue your education?

List your academic honors, awards and membership activities while in high school:

List your community service activities, hobbies, outside interests, and extracurricular activities:

Give a brief description about yourself and your college plans (college/university/trade school, intended major, and anticipated start date). Should not exceed 150 words.

Personal Essay

Please answer the following question:

Describe three (3) things you want to accomplish in college & how will you achieve them?

This question must be at least 1-2 pages, typed, double-spaced, and 12 pt / Time New Roman font.

Please ensure your essay contains no grammatical errors. Your essay should be attached to/sent in with this application.

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2026 Recommendation Form



Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Organization/Employer Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

What are the characteristics that make you believe this applicant will be a successful college student?

Category	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Do Not Know
Scholastic Achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Community Service	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Leadership Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Commitment to obtaining a college degree	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Goal Setting	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Character and Personality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Initiative and Drive	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE NOTE: The **Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF)** provides students with a monetary award for use toward college tuition and fees. Furthermore, **(2) Recommendation Forms** must be emailed by **April 24, 2026, 5:00 p.m. CST** to be considered eligible.

The **Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF)** will announce scholarship recipients on Friday, May 1st, 2026.

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2026 Photo Release Form



Permission to Use Photograph

Purpose of Photograph: **Publicity Related to Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF)**

I grant to **Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF), Dixon Carter Fund, LLC** and its members and/or representatives the right to take photographs of me and my property in connection with the above-identified subject. I authorize **Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF)**, its assignees and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically.

I agree that **Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund (DCSF)** may use such photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: (If under age 18) _____

*Please submit a recent headshot photo with this form (Formal senior picture or similar photo preferred) *

Dixon Carter Scholarship

2026 Scholarship Rules & Statement of Accuracy



Required Rules for Applicants to Participate in the Scholarship Selection Process

Applicants for the Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund must meet all Eligibility Requirements as defined in the scholarship application. Selection tools, selection criteria, transcripts, GPAs, rankings, essays or other data used in evaluating candidates will not be shared with applicants, their parents or any other persons who are not members of the interview selection process. Relatives or guardians of applicants will not be allowed to participate in the application review, or selection process. Applicants and parents agree to respect the integrity of the process and the members of the Selection Committee. All candidates will be evaluated fairly and equitably. The decisions of the Selection Committee shall be final and binding. Explanations or rationale for decisions made will not be provided to any applicant or parent.

Statement of Accuracy

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship recipient, according to Dixon Carter Scholarship Fund policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds will be awarded.

I certify that I have read, understood, and will abide by these required rules.

Signature of scholarship applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of applicant's guardian/ parent: _____ Date: _____

“Helping Other People Excel with the purpose to Build, Impact & Support.”

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Date Received by Committee _____

Application Deadline: April 24, 2026

Comments _____

Action Taken: Accepted () Denied () Committee Member Initials: _____