



2025 Sunburst Cares Scholarship Program

Sunburst Cares is proud to continue its mission of supporting the next generation of leaders by awarding college scholarships to high school seniors who demonstrate a strong commitment to education, a heart for service, and the resilience to overcome personal challenges.

The **Sunburst Cares Scholarship** will recognize outstanding seniors graduating from Texas or Georgia high schools or current college student:

To be considered, applicants must:

- Graduate in 2025 from a Texas or Georgia high school or are a current college student
- Complete and submit the **full application packet** by the deadline of **July 15, 2025**.

Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel, evaluating:

- Essays on community service and involvement
- Personal reflections on obstacles faced and lessons learned
- Aspirational writing on future goals and dreams

We are honored to support students who have shown perseverance, compassion, and determination—and we look forward to learning about the incredible young people shaping tomorrow's communities.

All applications must be sent to admin@sunburstcares.com by July 15, 2025

SUNBURST CARES SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Last Name First Middle

Address:

City State Zip

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

High School _____

High School Phone Number _____

Counselor's Name _____

Please complete the following steps:

1. Attach a copy of your high school transcript.
2. Describe your participation in volunteer community service. Be specific. Explain exactly what you have done to serve others. (This essay should be at least 250 words, typed, double-spaced 12 point font AND no more than two typed pages.) Refer to Essays Guide. This is a very important element of the application.
3. Explain the specific obstacles you have overcome in obtaining your high school education. [i.e. family challenges, grief and loss related to death of family member, illness, health challenges, relationship issues, financial difficulties, etc.] Note: Refer to Essays Guide. Your essay must be typed, double-spaced, 12 point font (suggested length: 250-500 words).
4. Describe your hopes and aspirations for the future. (Refer to Essays Guide. This essay should be at least 250 words, typed, double-spaced, 12 point font - maximum of 500 words).
5. Explain your plan for financing your education. Include any scholarships or financial aid you expect to receive, pending, or have already received.
6. Attach two letters of recommendation. One letter of recommendation must be from a teacher or school official, and the other letter should be from a person outside of the school system. (Business person, religious official, community leader, etc. Letters may not be written by your

family members or relatives.) Note: This is very important. These letters should include a description of the student's potential for success, as well as personal qualities that set student apart from classmates.

7. Attach a recent photograph of yourself. (PLEASE make sure the photo is clear and not distorted. Please ensure that all photos submitted are 4X6 or larger. If you do not have a photo that meets the required size, please include the largest that you have.)

If you have specific questions regarding this application, please contact:

admin@sunburstcares.com

To be considered, your completed scholarship application must be postmarked no later than July 15, 2025.

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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CHECKLIST RETURN THIS CHECK LIST WITH YOUR APPLICATION.

- ☐ high school transcript
- ☐ community service essay
- ☐ obstacles essay
- ☐ hopes/aspirations/goals essay
- ☐ education finance plans statement
- ☐ recommendation letter #1 _____
(name of teacher or school official)

Please provide a contact email address and telephone number for your teacher or school official.

Email: _____

Phone: _____

- ☐ recommendation letter #2 _____
(name of other reference)

Please provide a contact email address and telephone number for your second reference.

Email: _____

Phone: _____

- ☐ recent photo release form

Printed Name of Applicant:

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

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Education Finance statement

I have applied for the following scholarships to assist me in financing my post-high school education:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

I have received the following scholarships to date:

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

What other ways do you plan to finance your education?

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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I, _____, a **2025 SUNBURST CARES SCHOLAR APPLICANT**, understand that my picture and/or affiliations of myself and/or written or photographic material may be recorded electronically, in newspapers, and/or photographically by Sunburst Cares for use during any participation in the scholarship program and its corresponding events.

I hereby grant permission to Sunburst Cares to use these photographs, videotapes, written materials, or audio recordings of myself for its own use for distribution.

I further understand that these photographs, tapes, writings and recordings will be owned by Sunburst Cares and may be used only for articles and programs regarding its mission and purpose.

Printed Name

Signature of Scholar

Date

I, _____, parent or guardian of 2025 SUNBURST CARES SCHOLAR APPLICANT, _____ (name of applicant), understand that my child's picture and/or affiliations of my child and/or written or photographic material may be recorded electronically, in newspapers, and/or photographically by Sunburst Cares for use during any participation in the scholarship program and its corresponding events.

I hereby grant permission to Sunburst Cares to use these photographs, videotapes, written materials, or audio recordings of myself for its own use for distribution.

I further understand that these photographs, tapes, writings and recordings will be owned by Sunburst Cares and may be used only for articles and programs regarding its mission and purpose.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

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Essays Guide

These are important suggestions to consider when writing your essays.

Community service essay

Community Service: This is a very important segment of the application.

*Sunburst Cares seeks to recognize and reward students who have made significant contributions to the community.

Applicant should express:

- a. A clear understanding of the value of community service and impact that community service has had on his/her personal life.
- b. The amount of hours, varied activities, and skills acquired through service to community

**If lack of community service is due to significant economic challenges placed on the family due to the death of family member, employment may be considered in lieu of community service. If this is the case, explain where you have worked, the amount of hours, activities, and skills acquired through employment.*

Obstacles essay

Economic, social, emotional, psychological - any and all of these are relevant categories.

How have you responded to all challenges in your life?

Goals essay

Include a very clear description of your college plans. Be specific. Provide an indication of major (or areas of emphasis) even though you may still be considering more than one field. Be sure to indicate your **future career path**.

** Why have you set these goals?

*** No value judgments will be made regarding the value of a particular career compared to another. For instance, becoming a doctor is no more credible than becoming a business owner, plumber, or educator.*

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