



CAROL B. CLARK SCHOLARSHIP
Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library
Criteria and Required Documents
2026 Academic Year

The Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library honor Carol B. Clark the first branch librarian by naming this scholarship in her honor. The Friends are offering two (2) scholarships from local high school seniors. The funds may be used for post-secondary education expenses. The Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library shall review all applications and shall have full authority to grant the scholarship.

Who is eligible for the scholarship?

Any graduating senior from Airport High School, White Knoll High School, home schooled student, or private school student with the SCPR Library service area may apply. To be eligible, students in any of the above categories must be a resident of Lexington County and the area served by the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library.

What is the scholarship?

The Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library will award two (2) \$250 scholarships. This is a one-time scholarship that can be applied to any post-secondary expense.

General Rules

Applicants will be judged on the following:

- a. their character as evidenced by the letters of recommendation
- b. their initiative and leadership as evidenced by their extracurricular activities at school and in the community
- c. the clarity of purpose, thought, and articulation as evidenced in their essay.

To apply

The application process opens on January 1, 2026. The deadline for completed applications is May 15, 2026. The scholarship will be awarded to the winners at the May 28, 2026 meeting of the Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library.

Submission Requirements

Completed applications can be emailed to president@scprfriends.org, mailed to Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library, 200 Sunset Drive West Columbia, SC 29172, or dropped off at the circulation desk of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library.

PLEASE NOTE—ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST CONTAIN TWO COPIES OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS.

1. Letters of Recommendation

Submit two (2) letters of recommendation. Make sure you include two (2) copies of each letter.

- a. Letter one (1) should be from a teacher, a guidance counselor, or a club sponsor with whom you've had an academic relationship.
 - b. Letter two (2) should be from a community leader such as a Scout leader, community organization leader or possibly someone with whom you have served an internship.
- 2. Official transcript**
Request an official copy of your high school transcript from Parchment.com. DO NOT have Parchment.com send the transcript as it will not be accepted.
- 3. Parental or Guardian Letter**
Have a parent or guardian write a letter telling why you deserve this scholarship.
- 4. Essay**
Submit an essay of 400-500 words in the following format: Header, Name and date, essay title. Use the following formatting options—Times New Roman font, double-spaced with one-inch margins all around.
Essay topic—Choose one from the following options:
1. Have you ever used the public library? If so, why? If not, why not?
 2. What is the purpose of the public library?
 3. What would make you want to discover the public library?
- In your essay, work to convince your reader that public libraries are a necessity for society.**
- 5. Submission must include two (2) copies of the following documents.**
- a. Completed application
 - b. Letter from teacher, a guidance counselor, or a club sponsor
 - c. Letter from community leader such as a Scout leader, community organization leader or possibly someone with whom you have served an internship.
 - d. Parental or Guardian Letter
 - e. Official Transcript from Parchment.com
 - f. Essay
 - g. Current References



Application

CAROL B. CLARK SCHOLARSHIP Friends of the South Congaree-Pine Ridge Library 2026 Application

Please circle your school attendance area.

Airport

White Knoll

School currently attending, to include private and home schoolers

Applicant's name

Applicant's address

Phone number _____ Email address _____

Full name of Parents or Guardians (include both parents)

Date of Graduation _____

Describe your academic plans post high school.

Please list the awards and merits from your community involvement and high school experience.

Briefly tell us any other information that would be beneficial for the scholarship committee to know about you.

List memberships and offices held in a high school or community group. You may attach a resume or extra sheet, if needed.

School or Community Group

Office Held

In addition to your letters of recommendation, list two (2) other individuals who can speak to your character, work ethic, and desire for furthering your education. Please give full contact information including, mailing address, phone contact and email address.
