



2019 Statewide Scholarship Program Memo to Applicants

To: All Scholarship Applicants
From: Alyssa Evanchick
Date: 10/01/2018
RE: How to apply for a college scholarship

Thank you for your interest in our scholarship program, offered in partnership with the New York Credit Union Association. Please review the following instructions carefully before completing your application.

Note: You must be a member of a participating New York credit union to apply for a college scholarship through this program. If you are not currently a member, please call School Systems FCU at 518-286-1611 to learn how to join.

1. Complete the attached scholarship application form. Please type or print clearly, and use only the space provided on the form to answer the questions. Other than where specified on the application form, no attachments, resumes, pictures or other materials of any kind should be submitted or used to answer the questions.
2. You and your parent or guardian **must sign** the Certification and Release Authorization on the back page of the application form.
3. Submit your signed application directly to your credit union by **January 4, 2019**, along with:
 - a high school transcript documenting your GPA for grades 9-11;
 - an SAT/PSAT/ACT transcript; and
 - a typed essay response.

If any portion is incomplete or not included, the application will not be considered.

4. Your application must be signed by a participating management-level employee at your credit union in order to verify your credit union membership.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Alyssa Evanchick at 518-286-1611. Winner notifications will be sent in May 2019. Good luck and we look forward to receiving your application!



■ **The Award**

The New York Credit Union Association awards scholarships to be paid jointly to the student and educational institution. There will be no exceptions.

■ **Eligibility**

The applicant must be a member in good standing of a participating New York credit union who meets all of the following criteria:

- The member is a college-bound high school senior at the time of application.
- The member is attending college for the first time in the fall of 2019.
- The member will be enrolled in either a two- or four-year accredited educational institution.
- The member agrees to use any scholarship funds awarded by January 31, 2020, at an accredited educational institution only.

■ **Application Process**

To apply, eligible members must complete the attached scholarship application form. Applicants should type or print clearly and use only the space provided on the form to answer the questions. Other than specified below, no attachments, resumes, pictures or other material of any kind should be submitted or used to answer the questions.

If an applicant is a member of more than one credit union and submits an application to both, only one application will be scored for a state-level award. Both applications will be considered for any credit union-level awards that may be available.

✓ Check each box after completion.

- 1. The application must be signed by a credit union management-level employee of the applicant's participating credit union in order to verify eligibility.
- 2. The signed application must be submitted with:
 - a high school transcript documenting student's GPA for grades 9–11;
 - an SAT/PSAT/ACT transcript (obtained through the high school guidance office); and
 - a typed essay response.
- 3. The applicant and his/her parent or guardian must sign the Certification and Release Authorization on the last page of the application form.
- 4. The application, transcripts and essay must be returned to the credit union by **January 4, 2019**. If any portion is incomplete or missing, the application will not be considered.

■ **Selection Process**

Judging will be based on both subjective criteria and weighted, objective criteria. These include academic achievements, extracurricular and community activities, essay, etc.

■ **Application Deadline**

Applications must be returned to the credit union no later than **January 4, 2019**.

Scholarship Applicant Information

This application will not be considered unless all information is **completed in full, on this form only**, and all requested documentation is provided.

Please type or print clearly, in ink, and use only the space provided on this form to answer the questions. Do not use any attachments, resumes, pictures or other material of any kind to answer the questions. Winners will be notified by your credit union in May.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

High School _____ Anticipated Graduation Date ____ / ____ / ____

Name of College You Plan to Attend _____

High School Honors and Awards

Please list honors and awards and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: honor roll, National Honor Society, Who's Who, Principal's awards, science fair awards, college book awards, student/athlete awards, Empire State Games team, Eagle Scout classification, Girl Scouts Gold award.

- 1. _____ 9 10 11 12 6. _____ 9 10 11 12
- 2. _____ 9 10 11 12 7. _____ 9 10 11 12
- 3. _____ 9 10 11 12 8. _____ 9 10 11 12
- 4. _____ 9 10 11 12 9. _____ 9 10 11 12
- 5. _____ 9 10 11 12 10. _____ 9 10 11 12

High School Activities

Please list high school activities and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: sports teams, clubs, band, drama, choral, orchestra, yearbook, school newspaper, MathCounts, LifeSmarts, tutoring.

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- 2. _____ 9 10 11 12 7. _____ 9 10 11 12
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Community Activities and Volunteer Work

Please list community activities and volunteer work and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: scouting, community service projects, community volunteerism, religious youth groups, youth counseling.

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Leadership Positions Held (elected or appointed)

Please list leadership positions held and the grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: class officer, club officer, sports team leader, scouting leader, student government officer, band/orchestra 1st chair.

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■ Essay

Please use a separate sheet of paper to respond to the following questions in a comprehensive essay.

Your response should be typed, between 300–500 words and should include your full name in the top right corner. Points will be deducted if responses are not typed. Please be sure to cite all sources. **If any portion of the essay is plagiarized, the application will be disqualified.** Also, please ensure that you have answered each of the components of the essay. Personal narratives or other unrelated essays will not be eligible for credit.

Question: Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives that exist to serve members, not generate profit. “People helping people” is the philosophical foundation of these institutions. What do you see as the value of this foundation? Please explain.

In addition:

- What makes your credit union different than a for-profit financial institution?;
- How does your **credit union** demonstrate credit union’s “people helping people” philosophy?; and
- If you ran your credit union, what is one new initiative/program you would implement?

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■ Certification and Release Authorization

The following information must be completed for the applicant to be considered for a scholarship award.

- I certify this information is true, complete and accurate.
- I authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.
- I agree to use any scholarship funds awarded at an accredited educational institution by January 31, 2020.
- I authorize the New York Credit Union Association and _____
to publish my child's name and/or photo for the use of _____
promotional materials, news releases and/or social media. Credit Union Name

Member Signature (Student) _____ **Date** ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** ____/____/____

■ Application Verification

For Credit Union Use Only. The following information must be completed in full by sponsoring credit union management for the application to be considered.

- I hereby certify that the following applicant is a New York credit union member in good standing.

CU Manager Name _____

Signature _____

Official Credit Union Name _____ **Date** ____/____/____

New York Credit Union Association
Chapter:
(Please check one)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adirondack | <input type="checkbox"/> Finger Lakes | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern Tier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital | <input type="checkbox"/> Jamestown | <input type="checkbox"/> Utica-Rome |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catskill-Hudson | <input type="checkbox"/> Long Island | <input type="checkbox"/> Westchester-Rockland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central New York | <input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Erie-Niagara | <input type="checkbox"/> Rochester | |



strength in members.