College Scholarship Program Application
2026

Application Deadline: February 13, 2026

College Scholarship Program - *Exclusively for First Credit Union Members*

Education is a positive step towards a brighter future and First Credit Union is proud to support students on their journey through higher learning. Our College Scholarship Program, available exclusively to First Credit Union members, recognizes and rewards graduating high school seniors with a $1,929 scholarship to use toward tuition, books, and/or supplies at a university, college, or vocational school. The amount honors the year 1929, when First Credit Union was founded as Arizona's very first credit union - a tradition that reflects our commitment to both our history and your future. In 2026, up to three (3) scholarships will be awarded. Complete program details including eligibility and requirements are below.

Eligibility

Scholarship applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a primary member of First Credit Union and in good standing when scholarship application is submitted *(Note: volunteers, employees of First Credit Union, and their immediate family are NOT eligible to apply)*
- Be a 2026 graduating Arizona high school senior
- Plan to enroll full-time, beginning the fall of 2026, at an accredited two- or four-year university, college, or vocational school *(Full-time is the equivalent of at least 12 credit hours or as otherwise defined by the school)*
- Be a United States citizen

Application Requirements

Please submit the following:

- Completed Scholarship Application
- High school transcript - minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 required
- Essay regarding "What Being a Member of First Credit Union Means to Me"
  - ~ Include name and address on essay
  - ~ Essay should be 500 words or less, double-spaced, and typed or printed
- Letter of recommendation from one (1) counselor, teacher or other school official
- Complete young adult online survey. Survey link is available @ **first**cu.net/community.

Application Process & Judging

Complete applications received on or before deadline will be considered by a panel of judges comprised of First Credit Union staff employees and Executive Management. Applications will be judged on academic achievement, letter of recommendation, and essay. Essay and letter of recommendation will be judged on spirit, content, and quality. Course selection and GPA will be the basis for academic achievement consideration. Survey responses will NOT be considered during evaluation process.

Submission Options & Deadline

The application, including all required documentation, may be submitted by one of the methods listed below. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered. First Credit Union is not responsible for lost, delayed, or misdirected submissions.

By Mail:	In Person:	Electronically Via DocuSign:
Place all required materials in a single envelope and mail to: *(must be postmarked no later than February 13, 2026)* **First Credit Union** **Attn: Marketing** **25 S. Arizona Place, Suite 111** **Chandler, AZ 85225**	Place all required materials in a single envelope and deliver to any First Credit Union branch location by February 13, 2026. Branch locations can be found at firstcu.net/locations	Applications must be completed and received through DocuSign by 11:59 PM MST on February 13, 2026

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Notification & Reception
Scholarship recipients will be notified by email and/or phone call no later than March 20, 2026. Awarded funds will be deposited directly into each recipient's First Credit Union savings account by May 8, 2026. Selected recipients will also be invited to a Scholarship Reception held on or around the week of April 13-17, 2026, to celebrate their achievements.

Be a Voice for Your Generation
At First Credit Union, we value the voices of young adults and believe your perspective can help shape the future of banking. As part of the scholarship application, you'll be invited to complete a brief Young Adult Survey designed to better understand the financial needs, goals, and experiences of your generation.

In addition, selected applicants may be invited to join our exclusive Young Adult Focus Group - a unique opportunity to represent your peers, provide feedback on financial products and services, and help guide youth-focused initiatives at First Credit Union. Participation is optional, but being selected offers a meaningful opportunity to share your voice and help shape future initiatives for young adults at First Credit Union.

Certification & Media Release Consent
First Credit Union reserves the right to select the recipients of the scholarship program based on the criteria set forth in the scholarship program description. **By accepting the scholarship, recipients agree to authorize the release of their name, submitted essay content, and photographs for publicity purposes, including but not limited to First Credit Union's website, social media, and printed materials.** If the recipient is under 18, a signed parental or guardian consent form will be required.

Scholarships
Selected scholarship recipients each will be awarded $1,929. Scholarship funds are to be used solely for tuition, books and/or supplies for recipient's own college education. In order to receive the scholarship, recipients must plan to enroll in an accredited two- or four-year university, college, or vocational school in the fall semester following their high school graduation. Scholarship funds will be deposited directly into recipient's First Credit Union savings account no later than May 8, 2026.

Conditions & Limits on Liability
Each scholarship recipient must sign all required documents provided by First Credit Union, verifying that the submitted essay is their original, unpublished work. Any essay found to be copied, plagiarized or not authored by the applicant will result in immediate disqualification.

First Credit Union is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, technical errors, or human errors that may occur during the application process. We assume no responsibility for lost, delayed, altered, or incomplete submissions due to any cause. First Credit Union reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, modify, or suspend the scholarship program at any time, in whole or in part.

Application Checklist
Submit the following together and by the application deadline.
Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

_____ Student Application
_____ Essay
_____ Transcript
_____ Letter of Recommendation
_____ Completed Young Adult Survey

Have Questions?
Connect with us through chat or video call at firstcu.net. You can also text or call us at (480) 756-5500, or dial our toll-free number at (800) 732-6986 if outside the Phoenix area.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINE

Ready, Set, Apply!
August 1, 2025

Application Deadline
February 13, 2026

Selection & Notification
By March 20, 2026

Recipient Reception
Mid-April 2026

Please note: Dates are subject to change. Selected recipients will be contacted directly by First Credit Union.

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Applicant Information

Name: _____ Best Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How did you hear about the scholarship? _____

High School Information

High School Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Graduation Date: _____

Schools, clubs, community organizations, volunteer, and/or sports teams that you have participated in during high school. If applicable, include copies of awards, certificates, and/or recognition that you have received as a result of your participation:

_____

_____

_____

_____

University/College/Vocational School Information

University, College or Vocational School you plan to attend. *If possible, please attach enrollment confirmation or acceptance letter(s):*

_____

Type of School:

_____ Four-Year University or College

_____ Two-Year Community or Junior College

_____ Vocational School

_____ Other, please list: _____

Expected Major or Course of Study: _____

Degree or Certification Sought:

_____ Bachelor _____ Associate _____ Certificate _____ Other, please list: _____

Media Release Consent

As outlined above, by accepting the scholarship, recipents authorize the release of their name, submitted essay content, and photographs for publicity purposes, including but not limited to First Credit Union's website, social media, and printed materials.

To complete your application, please confirm the following:

Are you 18 years of age or older at the time of submitting this application?

☐ **Yes, I am 18 or older.**
I have read and agree to the terms of the Media Release and consent to the use of my name, essay, and image as described above. I understand this includes the right for First Credit Union to use photographs, videos, sound recordings, and written statements in any medium for lawful promotional purposes, without additional compensation.

☐ **No, I am under 18.**
A parent or legal guardian must consent on my behalf. *Please provide their contact information below so a Media Release can be sent via DocuSign.*

Parent/Guardian Full Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Applicant Acknowledgement & Signature

I acknowledge that the information included in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____