



Scholarship Information Session

Scholarship Season 2026

Applications Open: December 1, 2025-
February 14, 2026

Reviews will be completed by April 15, 2026
Annual Meeting at Shelly Ridge: May 2, 2026

Agenda

1. Where to find our scholarships
2. Creating a SmarterSelect account
3. Starting the Common App
4. References
5. Scholarships versus Awards
6. Reading through the Scholarships
7. Tips to keep you on track
8. Important Dates

How to find the Scholarships Page at GSEP.org

- Search “Scholarships”
Click the “Scholarships” link

OR

- Go to “Members” then
Go to “Scholarships”

The screenshot shows the website for Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following elements: the logo for Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, buttons for 'SHOP' and 'DONATE', a 'MY GS' link, a search icon, a phone icon, and a dropdown menu for 'Members' which is circled in red. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of a girl smiling in front of a sunflower. A dark green speech bubble overlay on the banner contains the text: "Your Year of Friendship. Join Girl Scouts today!". Below the banner is another navigation bar, identical to the one above, but with a 'Select Language' dropdown menu on the left and a 'Members' dropdown menu on the right, also circled in red. Below the navigation bar is a grid of links organized into four columns: 'For Girl Scouts', 'For Volunteers', 'For Parents & Families', and 'Governance'. The 'Scholarships' link in the 'For Girl Scouts' column is circled in red.

For Girl Scouts	For Volunteers	For Parents & Families	Governance
Badges and Journeys	Volunteer Recognition		
Camp and Outdoors	Ways to Volunteer		
Scholarships	Troop Year Planner		
Highest Awards	Volunteer Essentials		
Renew Your Membership	Forms, Documents, & Materials		
	For Troop Leaders		

Read through the instructions section before beginning

Create your Common App by clicking the link

*Anything **Green** and underlined is a link

Instructions

1. Read the **Scholarship Application Instructions** to help get you started on the submission process.
2. Create a username and password. Be sure to save this information for future use! With your account, you will be able to edit and view all your scholarship applications in one place.
3. Complete the **Scholarship Common Application**. **This application is required to be considered for any scholarship.**
4. Scholarship applications and references must be submitted by February 14, 2026.
5. You will hear from the scholarship committee regarding the status of your application at the beginning of April.
6. All scholarship recipients will be invited to be recognized at the GSEP Annual Meeting held in the spring.

Start by creating your common application

*This is required to be qualified for all scholarships

If you do not already have an account:
Create a New Account

*Remember to save your login information

Scholarship Common Application 2026

PROGRAM ACTIVATION DATE: December 01, 2025 at 12:00 AM EST(Midnight)

PROGRAM DEADLINE: February 14, 2026 at 11:59 PM(Midnight)

DESCRIPTION

All girls interested in applying for scholarships must complete this Scholarship Common Application. The list of scholarships are available to see at gsep.org

GSEP recognizes that Generative AI (GenAI) tools can be valuable resources when brainstorming ideas, improving clarity, or strengthening the overall quality of your scholarship application. These tools can help you reflect on your experiences, organize your thoughts, and communicate more effectively.

However, it is essential that the content you submit represents your own authentic voice, experiences, and opinions. GenAI should be used as a support tool, not as a replacement for your thinking or as an automated answer generator.

By using GenAI during your application process, you agree to the following:

- Your responses must be written in your own words, based on your personal experiences, beliefs, and accomplishments.
- AI-generated content should be carefully reviewed, revised, and personalized to ensure it reflects who you are.
- You are responsible for the accuracy and originality of all materials you submit.
- Do not provide false, misleading, or fabricated information, even if suggested by AI tools.
- Use AI ethically, meaning it should assist with brainstorming, editing, or idea refinement—not writing full responses on your behalf.
- Ensure your final submission aligns with scholarship requirements and maintains the integrity expected of all applicants.

By submitting your application, you confirm that the ideas and final wording are genuinely your own, and that any use of GenAI tools was conducted responsibly and transparently.

REQUIREMENTS

All girls must be a currently registered Girl Scout with Girl Scouts of Eastern PA. Each individual scholarship application may list specific age, financial, or other requirements. Must have 2 references, one being Girl Scout affiliated.

[Preview](#)

[Apply](#)

Already have an application started? [Sign In](#)

[Create New Account](#)

[Sign In](#)

Sign into your Account

[SHOW](#)

[Sign In](#)

 [Sign in with Google](#)

[Forgot your Password?](#)

Things to note when you open the Common App:

♣ 6 pages to the App

♣ Red * means Required

Scholarship Common Application 2026

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2. General Information

Please provide the following information.

Name *

Address *

City *

Pages

✓ AI Statement

▶ General Information

Girl Scout Experience

Extracurricular Act...

Essay Questions

References

When it comes to Open Ended Questions please list or describe all you can

If you hover over a question, there can be hints or examples to help you answer

Do not use acronyms
ex. SADD, TSA

3. Extracurricular Activities & Work Experience

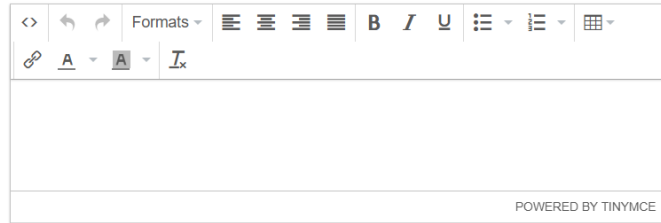
School Activities

Please list any extracurricular activities you participated in at school in grades 9-12. *



A TinyMCE rich text editor with a toolbar containing icons for undo, redo, bold, italic, underline, bulleted list, numbered list, and table. Below the toolbar are input fields for link, text color, background color, and text color. The main text area is empty. At the bottom right, it says "POWERED BY TINYMCE".

Did you hold any leadership positions in these activities? If so, please list below.



A TinyMCE rich text editor with a toolbar containing icons for undo, redo, bold, italic, underline, bulleted list, numbered list, and table. Below the toolbar are input fields for link, text color, background color, and text color. The main text area is empty. At the bottom right, it says "POWERED BY TINYMCE".



Pages

General Information

Girl Scout Experience

Extracurricular Act...

Scholarships

References

References:

- What scholarships are you applying for?
- Do they need a specific reference?
 - One reference **must** be someone who knows you in Girl Scouts ex. Troop Leader, Service Unit Manager, Gold Award Coach
 - One reference **could** be someone who knows you through community service
- You need to have **two** references; you can have up to three
- Reference must NOT be related to you

5. References

Criteria for Submitting References

References are required for every scholarship application. Please request references from people who can write on your behalf in relation to the scholarship. References must be written by adults not related to the applicant.

Each scholarship requires at least two references. One reference must be someone who knows you through Girl Scouts. Please check each individual scholarship application for specific reference criteria. References may be used for multiple applications if it meets that specific scholarship criteria.

Applicants will provide the contact information of the person writing the reference. This person will be sent a link to complete the reference questions. They do not need to create an account to complete the reference. The reference must be completed before the February 15 deadline for the scholarship application to be considered submitted.

Reference 1

Contact's First Name *

Contact's Last Name *



References

- ◆ Talk to your potential references before adding them to your common app
- ◆ Tell them about the scholarships you will be applying for
- ◆ Ask if they will be able to write on your behalf
- ◆ If they can, tell them they will be receiving an email from SmarterSelect to complete the questions
- ◆ Tell them this needs to be completed before February 14th
- ◆ If they are not able to complete this, switch to a new reference- update the persons information in the application to assign them
- ◆ Ask early- you can start asking now- do not wait

Scholarships Page
All information about
our Scholarships can be
found here
Use the Drop Down to
find scholarships

6. You will hear from the scholarship committee regarding the status of your application at the end of March.

7. All scholarship recipients will be invited to be recognized at the GSEP Annual Meeting held in the spring.

Scholarship Opportunities

GSEP Awards and Scholarships



Additional Opportunities



Other Resources



For questions regarding scholarships, please [email us](#).



Tips for Completing Applications

- ◆ Create your applications in December- SAVE as you go
- ◆ Ask your references in December
- ◆ Work on you application questions through January- you can save along the way and submit when you are finished
- ◆ You will receive emails when your application is created, successfully submitted, emails have been sent to references, and when your references have completed
- ◆ You will receive a confirmation email when your reference has completed their recommendation
- ◆ Read each question thoroughly and be detailed in your answers
- ◆ You application is not complete until all your references are received

Important Dates:

November 15- Union League Applications Open (11th grade)

December 1- Applications Open (12th grade)

December 31- Union League Applications Close

February 1- Union League Applicants will be emailed with their status

February 14- All Scholarship Applications must be submitted with references received

April 15- All applicants will receive an email on status

May 2- Annual Meeting, awardees will be invited to be recognized and receive their certificates

Any Questions? Thank You

Contact girlawards@gsep.org with any questions
Please put “Scholarships” in the subject line



