



2026 WFEC College Scholarship Packet

West Florida Electric Cooperative (WFEC) is offering thirteen \$1,000 scholarships to 2026 high school graduates in its four-county service area (one per high school plus one for home-schooled students). Scholarships may be used at any post-secondary, vocational, or technical institution.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Parent/legal guardian must be a WFEC member living on the cooperative's distribution lines.
- Student must graduate in 2026 from a high school in the service area (or be home-schooled in the service area).

APPLICATION:

- Available online at www.westflorida.coop or from high school guidance counselors
- Submit by January 5, 2026 at 5 PM
- Include a completed application and a 500-1,000 word essay on the following topic: "What makes cooperatives different from other types of utilities?"
- Do not include identifying information in your essay

Winners will be announced in the spring of 2026 and all winners will be awarded their scholarships at the cooperative's 2026 Annual Meeting taking place on Saturday, April 25, 2026.

All scholarships will be payable to the educational institution the student will be attending.



Apply Online:



Scholarship Criteria:

- All applications must be submitted by **January 5, 2026 by 5 PM**.
- Applicants must be graduating in 2026 from a school located within the cooperative's four-county service area.
- The applicant's parent or legal guardian must be a member of West Florida Electric Cooperative living on the cooperative's electric distribution system.
- The applicant must be enrolled or enrolling in an accredited college program, either full-time or part-time.
- The recipient must be a vocational/technical or undergraduate student only.
- The scholarship funds will be disbursed directly to the college's business office on behalf of the recipient in the amount of \$1,000.
- The recipient must use the funds within three (3) years.
- The judges will review the applications anonymously, so their decisions are based solely on the strength of the applicant's essay and application.
- All judges' decisions are final.
- Previous winners are not eligible to win.
- Winners will be announced in April or May each year.
- Any questions should be directed to Candace Croft at 850-263-3231, 800-342-7400 or ccroft@westflorida.coop.

Checklist:

Before submitting your application, please do a final check to make sure that all the necessary documents are included. Incomplete or incorrect applications will not be considered.

- ☐ Essays must be typed and double-spaced. No exceptions.
- ☐ Essays (if printed) must be printed on one side of the paper; do not print on the back. Use only plain white paper when printing.
- ☐ Essays must be 500-1,000 words. Be clear and concise.
- ☐ Proofread your essays before submitting your application. Points will be deducted for grammatical errors and misspelled words.
- ☐ Do not staple your essay or application (if printed).
- ☐ All blanks on the application must be completed. If any data requested does not apply to you (for example, if you do not have an email address), put N/A (not applicable) in the blank.
- ☐ In your essay, do not include any indication of who you are, where you live or where you attend school. Any such reference will immediately disqualify you. Also, do not include your name anywhere on your essay. This includes headers, footers and page numbers.
- ☐ Include a photo with the application (preferably a senior photo or cap & gown photo).

**To apply, complete the application and submit
a 500-1,000 word essay on the assigned topic.**

Applications available online: www.westflorida.coop

2025 WFEC Scholarship Application

Please type or print legibly; attach essay & photo.

Student name:

Mailing address:

City, State & ZIP:

Best contact number:

Email address:

Parent or guardian contact number:

High school:

Parent or guardian email:

Parent or guardian name (WFEC account holder):

WFEC account number:

College/vocational school:

College/vocational school phone:

College/vocational school address:

College/vocational contact person (advisor, financial aid officer, etc.):

Current GPA:

Extracurricular Activities:

Organization name:

Office(s) held:

Date(s) active:

Organization name:

Office(s) held:

Date(s) active:

Organization name:

Office(s) held:

Date(s) active:

Organization name:

Office(s) held:

Date(s) active:

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[illegible]

Student name:

What motivates you to succeed with short- and long-range goals?

Why should you receive this scholarship?

I certify with my signature that all information reported on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the scholarship will be sent directly to the college upon my acceptance and subsequent enrollment in said institution. I give permission to West Florida Electric Cooperative to use my name and photograph in its publicity of this program without consideration of compensation to me, if I am selected to receive a scholarship. I also certify that the essay was solely written from my own ideas and composition.

Applicant's signature

Date