

**WILSON AREA**  
**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION**  

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**F O U N D A T I O N**

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**General Information**  
**2023**

For Wilson Area High School seniors planning to enter an accredited post-secondary institution or trade school upon graduation from high school.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation Scholarship Program was established to further the educational focus of the Foundation and its efforts to build character, responsibility, and respect in our students' journey to becoming well-rounded learners and productive citizens. This program applies only to Wilson Area High School graduates and is not open to the general public.

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

This program provides scholarship(s) annually to Wilson Area High School graduates. A minimum of one scholarship will be awarded each academic school year. Scholarships are awarded based on applicant involvement in community service, school involvement, and academic achievement. Each scholarship is a one-time award in the amount of \$1,000.00. The funds are payable to an accredited post-secondary institution, skill/training center or trade school. The funds are provided to assist students with tuition, required registration, or other fees by the fall of the application year.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

All Wilson Area High School seniors are eligible to apply. Applicants must be planning to enter an accredited post-secondary institution or trade school upon graduation from high school. Successful completion of seven (7) credits while attending Wilson Area High School with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 is required.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Eligible students must complete the scholarship application and submit the requested documentation certifying community service and school involvement, and a personal essay describing the applicant's participation in volunteer community service. The applicant must also submit a copy of the most current high school cumulative grade transcript. The Foundation will begin accepting applications on **January 23, 2023**. The submission deadline for filing an application is **March 10, 2023**. Applications should be sent to:

**Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation  
C/O Kimberly Hopkins  
2040 Washington Boulevard  
Easton, PA 18042**

While applications are available on the school district's website, in the high school guidance office and the Foundation's website, the hard-copy application must be submitted with original signatures. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. Applications are evaluated on the information supplied. Therefore, applications not including all requested information by the due date are ineligible for consideration. All information received is considered confidential.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of performance in four (4) key areas. Each of the five areas is assigned a point value. Applicants may receive from zero (0) up to the total points allotted in each category:

1. **Community Service Letter** – (25 points) Each applicant is asked to provide a letter of documentation from a non-family member describing the applicant's participation in community service. The letter should describe the applicant's impact on a specific project or program.
2. **School Involvement Letter** – ( 25 points) Each applicant is asked to provide a letter of documentation from a non-family member describing the applicant's school activities, accomplishments and demonstrated leadership abilities.
3. **Academic Achievement** – (25 points) Each applicant is required to provide a copy of the most current high school grade transcript that includes their cumulative GPA.
4. **Written Essay** – (25 points) Each applicant is asked to provide an essay describing in 1,000 words or less what has been the most rewarding volunteer community service project, program or activity the applicant has participated in, and why it was important to the applicant. The essay should include five (5) basic points:
  - The applicant's role in the service project, program or activity
  - Time spent on the service project, program or activity
  - Was the volunteer experience a one-time or ongoing effort?
  - Impact of volunteer experience on the applicant
  - Why the applicant feels their involvement made a difference in the project, program or activity

Each of the four (4) performance areas will be assigned a point value by individual judges, then totalled for a final result. The candidate with the highest total score will be awarded a scholarship. Individual feedback regarding the judges' evaluation will not be provided. The decisions of the Foundation are final.

## **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

A panel of judges appointed by the Foundation's Board of Directors select the scholarship recipient(s) according to an established rubric.

## **RECIPIENT NOTIFICATION AND PRESENTATION**

The scholarship recipient(s) will be announced at the 2023 Wilson Area High School graduation ceremony.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

***Q. Who can apply for this scholarship?***

**A.** All Wilson Area High School seniors that meet the requirements are eligible to apply.

***Q. How are scholarships awarded?***

**A.** A minimum of one scholarship will be awarded per year, based on established criteria as defined by the scholarship application.

***Q. Are scholarship awards based on financial need?***

**A.** No. Scholarship awards are based on the four key areas defined in the selection process.

***Q. How are the scholarships funded?***

**A.** The scholarship funding will be sought through support of employees, private individuals and corporate contributors.

***Q. How might I appeal a scholarship decision?***

**A.** The scholarship awards are based on criteria established by the Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation Board and decisions are final. Information submitted by the applicant and any information utilized in selecting recipients is the confidential property of the Foundation, not subject to disclosure.

***Q. Are family members of Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation staff and Board of Directors eligible to participate?***

**A.** No. Immediate family members of the Foundation staff and Board are ineligible to participate.

***Q. Can multiple family members submit an application during the same period?***

**A.** Yes. Multiple family member applications can be submitted as long as each applicant is a Wilson Area High School senior and meets all other established program criteria for submitting an application.

***Q. Can parts of the application be submitted at different times?***

**A.** No. All information to be considered as part of the application MUST be submitted together. Information received with the application will be considered the entire submission and will be evaluated solely on that information.

***Q. Can part of the information be submitted electronically and part submitted through the mail?***

**A.** No. All information to be considered MUST BE SUBMITTED together with the application as one package and received by March 10, 2023. Faxes and electronic submissions will not be accepted.

***Q. Will scholarship funds be payable to the applicant if career plans change and the applicant does not enter an accredited institution as defined in the program?***

**A.** No. Scholarship funds are not payable to individuals. The scholarships are designed to assist recipients with expenses associated with school tuition, required registration and other fees and will be paid directly to the institution indicated by the scholarship winner.

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**F O U N D A T I O N**

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Application**  
**2023**

For Wilson Area High School seniors planning to enter an accredited post-secondary institution or trade school upon graduation from high school.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Last Name:

First Name:

Middle Initial:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

E-mail Address:

Telephone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City:

State:

Zip Code:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**POST GRADUATION DATA**

Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Scheduled Date of Enrollment: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Type: 2 yr. Community College \_\_\_\_ 4 yr. College/University \_\_\_\_ Trade School \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_

Major/Occupational Study (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

**LETTERS OF VERIFICATION**

Please attach a one-page letter written by a non-family member for each of the following categories\*:

1. **Community Service** – Provide a letter of documentation from a non-family member describing your participation in community service. The narrative should identify your personal impact and contribution to a specific volunteer project or program.
2. **School Involvement** – Provide a letter of documentation from a non-family member highlighting your school activities, accomplishments, and demonstrated leadership abilities. The narrative should include your impact as it relates to your school involvement and why you are a good candidate to receive a scholarship.

Each letter should be signed and dated by the individual submitting the information, and should include their title and contact information.

\* *Be sure to submit one letter per category for a total of two (2) letters.*

## ESSAY

In 1000 words or less, please describe the most rewarding volunteer community service project, program or activity you have participated in, and why it was an important experience for you. Include the following items in your essay:

- Description of your role in the service project, program or activity
- Amount of time spent volunteering for the project, program or activity (in months, weeks, days or hours)
- Was it a one-time or an ongoing volunteer effort?
- The impact of the experience on you personally
- The impact your participation had in the service project, program or activity—how did your contribution make a difference?

## SCHOOL OFFICIAL'S CERTIFICATION

Each applicant must include a complete high school transcript of grades through the junior year and any official grades received during the current senior term. Please have this section completed by the appropriate school official. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA is required at the time of application.

Cumulative grade point average \_\_\_\_\_

School Official's

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

## APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I am a Wilson High School Student. I also understand, falsification of any information will result in disqualification of this application. I also understand and agree that this application becomes the property of Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation. I understand that this application will be assessed based on information provided and submission of this application does not guarantee that I will receive a scholarship and that the decision of the Foundation is final. I further agree that in the event I am a scholarship recipient, this form also serves as a release to use my name, photographs, biographical information and excerpts from my application and related material in press releases and other publications announcing and promoting this scholarship program.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Confirmation of application receipt will be sent to the applicant's email or home address within 14 days of receipt. If you do not receive confirmation, you may contact Kimberly Hopkins, Executive Director of the Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation at [khopkins@wilsonareasd.org](mailto:khopkins@wilsonareasd.org) or 484-373-6088.

Scholarship recipient(s) will be announced at the 2023 Wilson Area High School graduation ceremony. Decisions of the Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation are final.

### **APPLICANT CHECKLIST**

Be sure you have included all requested information. Incomplete applications will **NOT** be considered.

- Completed application including required signatures
- Two (2) letters of verification of your community service and school involvement
- Personal essay
- High school transcript

***\*Remember to submit the application no later than March 10, 2023.***

### **MAIL APPLICATION & ATTACHMENTS TO:**

The Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation  
C/O Kimberly Hopkins  
2040 Washington Boulevard  
Easton, PA 18042

**WILSON AREA**  
**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION**  
**FOUNDATION**

[www.WAPEF.org](http://www.WAPEF.org)