MEMBERS FIRST
CREDIT UNION OF FLORIDA

**2025 - 2026**

# SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

At Members First Credit Union of Florida, we believe in the power of educational opportunities for our young members. We started out serving teachers, so education has always been a priority for us. Staying true to our roots in education, we will award four scholarships to students based on their scholastic record and community involvement. Applicant must be a member of Members First Credit Union of FL and be the primary account holder at time of application and scholarship presentation (all students qualify for membership at Members First). Each scholarship is for one year and does not renew. Be sure to review the requirement information before submitting your application.

You have dreams, and we are committed to helping achieve those dreams. If you plan to attend college, apply for one of four (4) non-renewable $1,250 scholarships. Check will be made payable to the school of choice as designated on the application, marked “for tuition purposes only” and mailed directly to the school of choice after August 1st.

**MFCUFL.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS**

# A Note from the President

**DEAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT:**

Congratulations on your decision to further your education. The Members First Credit Union of FL Board of Directors and staff wish you every success in your endeavor to receive one of our scholarships and hope this is just the first step in your quest to receive higher education. Please note that you must be a Members First Credit Union member in good standing and be the primary account holder at time of application and scholarship presentation.

In preparing your application, please read the instructions carefully and type or legibly print the requested information. If the question requires a “Yes” or “No” answer, please circle one. Make sure you provide all submissions requested, as omission can result in disqualification. Required submissions are listed below and should be used as a “checklist” to make sure your application is complete. Your application should include:

- **Application Form -** All requested information must be completed.
- **High School Transcripts -** The past four (4) years, including grade point average (GPA).
- **Essay -** Complete an essay in 500 words or less on one of the topics outlined in the application.
- **Academic Recommendations -** At least one (1) and not more than four (4).
- **Individual Recommendations -** At least one (1) and not more than four (4).

Once again, we wish you every success. Make sure your application is delivered by the deadline listed in the General Information form in your packet. Late entries will not be considered. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Michele Williams

**Michele Williams**

President & CEO
Members First Credit Union of FL

# General Information

## THE PROGRAM

At Members First, we know the importance of continuing your education, but we are also aware of the rising cost of continued education. That is why we have established a scholarship program to help deserving students with some of those expenses.

For the 2025-2026 school year, Members First will be awarding four (4) non-renewable $1,250 scholarships. Eligible applicants must be graduating high school seniors or high school graduates. The scholarships are intended for first-year continuing education students only. Eligible applicants must also be members in good standing at Members First. Please see the Eligibility Guidelines for other applicant requirements.

**The Scholarship application submission deadline is Monday, March 31, 2026.**

## AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

Each scholarship awarded will be in the amount of $1,250 to be made payable to the school of choice as designated by the recipient and marked “for tuition purposes only.” Each scholarship is for one year and does not renew.

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES:

- Applicant must be a current senior or graduate of an accredited high school, ready to begin as a first-year continuing education student. A GED is not an acceptable substitute.
- Applicant must have a minimum high school grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 based on a 4.0 grading system, or a “B” average. A copy of transcripts for the past four (4) years is required.
- Applicant must plan to be a full-time student.
- Applicant must be a member in good standing at Members First and be the primary account holder at the time of application and scholarship presentation.
- At least one parent or guardian must be a member in good standing at Members First and be the primary account holder at the time of application and scholarship presentation.
- Submit at least one (1) and not more than four (4) academic letters of recommendation from authorities at your school such as teachers, principals, or guidance counselor.
- Submit at least one (1) and not more than four (4) letters of recommendation from individuals, other than family members, who have known you for at least two (2) years.
- Applicant must provide an essay in your words answering: 1. “How can credit unions better appeal to and serve Gen Z members?” or 2. “How can credit unions better influence our communities?”
- The essay can be 500 words or less, written or printed within the downloadable application form or on a separate piece of paper.
- Completed application with required documents should be placed in an envelope and sealed with the applicant’s name and address clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. The word “Scholarship Application” should also be placed on the envelope. The completed application with submissions should be delivered to the following address no later than the close of business on Tuesday, March 31, 2026. They may also be scanned and emailed to scholarships@mfcufl.org, or completed online at www.mfcufl/scholarships.

Scholarship Committee:

Members First Credit Union of FL | 251 W. Garden Street | Pensacola, FL 32502

# Scholarship Program Application

2025-2026 Members First Scholarship Application Due March 31, 2026

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY**

## Applicant Information:

Applicant's Name _____ Account # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Number _____ Cell Number _____ Email Address _____

Social Security Number _____ Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

## Parent or Guardian Information:

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Account # _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Account # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Number _____ Cell Number _____ Email Address _____

## College/University Information:

Name of Institution of Choice _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Proposed Major Field of Study _____

Have you applied for enrollment? ☐ Yes ☐ No Have you been accepted? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Estimated annual academic expenses:

- Tuition Per Semester _____
- Books Per Semester _____
- Room and Board Per Semester _____

Have you/will you apply for other scholarships or financial aid? ☐ Yes ☐ No

# Scholarship Program Application

## Educational:

In chronological order, list all high schools and colleges attended.

| School | Location | Years Attended (Dates) |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

## Work Experience:

In chronological order, list any current and previous employers.

| Company | Type of Work | Dates of Employment |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

## Academic/School Activities and Awards:

List any academic-related activities that you have participated in during the past five (5) years and your specific involvement.

_____

_____

_____

## Community Activities:

List any community-related activities that you have participated in during the past five (5) years and your specific involvement.

_____

_____

_____

## Career and Vocational Objectives:

List any career and vocational-related activities that you have participated in during the past five (5) years and your specific involvement.

_____

_____

_____

# Scholarship Program Application

## Essay:

Credit Unions are cooperative, local, not-for-profit financial institutions founded on the philosophy of “People Helping People”. Within the space provided below or on a separate sheet, please complete an essay in 500 words or less on one of the following topics 1. How can credit unions better appeal to and serve Gen Z members? 2. How can credit unions better influence our communities? Please reference sources where applicable.

# Scholarship Program Application

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

No applicant will be excluded from participation or be denied the benefit of a Members First Scholarship on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sex, or disability. Recipients must meet all eligibility requirements.

**CERTIFICATION:**

I certify that all information provided on this application and all supporting documents are accurate and complete. I understand that any misleading or false information will result in my application being disqualified. If selected as a scholarship winner, I give full consent for the use of my name and likeness to be used for promotional and publicity purposes. I understand that the decision of the Members First Credit Union of FL Scholarship Committee is final.

_____

Applicant's Signature Date

_____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (If applicant is under age 18) Date

**How did you hear about Members First Credit Union of FL's Scholarship Program?** (select one)

☐ School ☐ Members First Branch ☐ Social Media

☐ Members First Website ☐ Internet Search ☐ Other _____

**Internal Use Only**

☐ Eligible ☐ Application ☐ Transcript ☐ Essay ☐ Date _____ Number _____

**MFCUFL.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship Committee: Members First Credit Union of FL
251 W. Garden Street | Pensacola, FL 32502

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