



Westlands Water District

High School Scholarship Application Instructions

Application Deadline: April 21, 2024

Attention Applicants: Please read, carefully review, and follow all instructions. Incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be considered or accepted. To be eligible for the Westlands Water District High School Scholarship you must submit all of the following documents by the application deadline:

- An online application form with all required information completed.
- An essay that is between 350-550 words on one topic listed below. The essay should be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font. Note that essays will be judged on content and grammar. Please add your name and identify the question you are answering in the upper left corner of the first page. Please write your essay on one of the following topics:
 - Explain how agriculture has affected your life.
 - Explain how Westlands Water District has affected you and your family.
 - Explain the importance of agricultural water to California and the west side of the San Joaquin Valley.
- A copy of the applicant's most recent high school transcripts. Unofficial transcripts are also accepted.
- A copy of the applicant's acceptance letter from the accredited post-secondary school that the applicant plans to attend. If the letter has yet to arrive, you can provide one upon award notification, prior to a check being issued. A reference list of institutions can be found here: ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home
- Two reference letters, written by non-relatives. The letters must be signed and include the reference's contact information.
- Applicants are required to submit the application and attachments, described above, by 11:59 pm on the application deadline. Late applications will be denied. Applications, including all attachments, can be submitted on the District's website. If you have any questions, please contact us at pubaffairs@wwd.ca.gov or 559-241-6233.

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Westlands Water District High School Scholarship Guidelines

Applicants

- The scholarships are open to all graduating seniors from Reef-Sunset Unified School District, Coalinga-Huron Unified School District, Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified School District, Hanford Joint Union High School District, Lemoore Union High School District, Mendota Unified School District, Riverdale Joint Unified School District, or Golden Plains Unified School District, who have been accepted and plan on attending an accredited post-secondary education program, including two-year or four-year college or university.
- Applicants are not required to have a connection with agriculture to be considered.

Judging Process

- The applications will be judged based on the submitted application, essay, academic transcript, and references.
- Essays will be judged upon content, punctuation, and grammar.
- The judge(s) will also consider the student's academic achievements, leadership, tenacity, contributions to the local community, career goals, and need.

Awarding the Scholarships

- At least one student from each school district represented in the applicant pool will be selected to receive a \$1,000 scholarship for use on education-related expenses.
- Students chosen to receive the award will be notified by phone and/or email.
- Scholarship recipients will need to provide a completed [W9](#) form before a check can be issued. Recipients will then receive a check in the mail to the address provided in the application.
- A notification indicating the award will be sent to the high school.
- A District press release will be sent to local media announcing the scholarship winners. Excerpts of the applicant's application material may be used in media communications. Applicant may be asked to provide a photo for District use.
- The District may host events or other activities related to the distribution of the scholarships.