



2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS are available to graduating high school students. We accept applications from Cherokee, Clay, or Graham Counties along with Nantahala High School, Home Schooled students OR any student who has their High School Equivalency Diploma. These students should demonstrate academic strength, leadership, community involvement, and financial need. Scholarships are for tuition and/or books, have no cash value and are non-transferable.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be a US Citizen, a North Carolina resident, and a graduating senior with a 2.85 GPA or above.

Applicants must plan to attend a two- or four-year college, university or community college as a full-time student beginning Fall of 2026.

This is an academic excellence and need based scholarship. Preference may be given to those with greater financial need.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES CHECKLIST

To be considered, each applicant must submit **ALL** the following:

- **Completed Application**
- **Two letters of recommendation** - One from a faculty member and one from an unrelated adult.
- **High School Transcript and SAT/ACT official report of scores** - If not available explain why.
- **Personal Essay** stating your qualifications, including personal background, leadership, educational and personal goals, special contributions, and volunteer work at school and/or the community and your career interests. (See Essay Section IV)
- **Copy of requested Tax Return** – With *Social Security Numbers blacked out*. *ALL sensitive documents will be managed with care and shredded following the selection process.*

This application and the essay are to be completed by the **STUDENT**. Any submissions deemed to be completed by another person will not be considered for the award.

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must submit a completed application and ALL supporting documents to the Scholarship Committee postmarked no later than **MARCH 1st**. They can also be delivered to **Mountain Lakes Board of REALTORS®, 93 Tennessee Street, Murphy, NC 28906**. Normal business hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 4:00pm. *(No exceptions will be made to the deadline; late applications will not be considered.)*

Selected Recipients will be notified by phone and/or email. Certificates will be mailed or delivered to the high school for presentation at the school's Senior Awards Ceremony. Funds will be paid directly to the school of choice.

SECTION 1: STUDENT INFORMATION

Personal Information:

First	Middle	Last Name
Mailing Address (Home or PO Box)		City/State/Zip Code
Home Phone	Student's Cell Phone	
Student's Email Address		
Father's -or- Guardian's Name	Occupation	Place of Employment
Mother's -or- Guardian's Name	Occupation	Place of Employment

HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE INFORMATION

High School Name	School Phone #
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This applicant will graduate in the spring this year from high school and plans to attend the following accredited two- or four-year college or university located in the United States, beginning with the upcoming Fall quarter or semester.

School Counselor's Name	Counselor's Signature	Date
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Have you received an Acceptance Letter? Yes ☐ No ☐ If so, please provide a copy.
Checks will not be mailed until a letter is received.

Name Of College or University

Address of the Financial Aid Office (Where the Check Is to Be Sent)	City/State/Zip Code
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Make Check Pay to the Order of: _____
Each school has a different preference.

Student Id #	Financial Aid Office Phone	Main Campus Phone
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SECTION II: STUDENT ACADEMIC INFORMATION

To be completed by student prior to submitting back to counselor for review.

Circle the Answer that applies.

1. Indicate your family's adjusted gross income verified by most recent Federal Income Tax Return
(Please **black out** social security numbers... ALL personal data will be shredded following selections)

Less than \$40,000

\$40,000 to \$80,000

\$80,000 to \$100,000

\$100,000 to \$150,000

\$150,000 to \$200,000

Greater than \$200,000

2. Indicate the total number of individuals (including parents and dependents) in your household.

1 - 3

4 - 5

6 - 7

7 and above

3. How many individuals will be enrolled in college in this upcoming FALL?

1

2

3

4 or more

4. List any other scholarships and financial aid awards and the amounts that are expected.

SECTION III: PERSONAL GOALS

Career Goal _____ Major _____

List your extracurricular activities in school or community, volunteering, honors, awards, recognition:

Attach additional pages, as necessary.

Provide any additional information that may help the committee in assessing your application.

SECTION IV: PERSONAL ESSAY

Include a typed personal essay stating your qualifications, including personal background, leadership, educational and personal goals, special contributions, and volunteer work at school and in the community and your career interests... along with why YOU should receive this scholarship.

SECTION V: DECLARATION

I declare that the information reported herein is true, correct and completed by the applicant. I shall provide, as requested, any additional documentation listed on the first page.

I understand and agree that any suspicion of forgery, incorrect and/or incomplete information, or completion by another party will result in my application being disqualified.

I understand that my completed application along with transcripts, letters of recommendation, tax returns and typed essay must be submitted at the office of the **Mountain Lakes Board of REALTORS® at 93 Tennessee St, Murphy, NC 28906** no later than **MARCH 1st, 2026**. You may drop your application into our locked mailbox after hours. A large manila envelope is recommended. Please **DO NOT STAPLE PAGES**.

Date completed:_____

Student's signature:_____

Parent / Guardian's Signature:_____

Parent / Guardian's Signature:_____