

Scholarship Packet (available as PDF download on Scholarship Page of Web):

Sunrise Family Credit Union Bright Future Scholarship

At Sunrise Family Credit Union, we firmly believe in the transformative power of education. We understand that investing in the academic pursuits of our youth not only enriches individual lives but also strengthens the fabric of our entire community. Education is the cornerstone of progress, and we are committed to fostering an environment where every individual has the opportunity to thrive and succeed.

With this commitment in mind, we are proud to offer the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship. This scholarship program is designed to recognize and support students who embody our values of community engagement and academic excellence. Each scholarship is awarded to deserving students who demonstrate a clear dedication to making a positive impact in our community and exhibit a genuine passion for lifelong learning.

We understand the financial challenges that students often face when pursuing higher education. Therefore, we are pleased to provide financial assistance in the form of four scholarships, each valued at \$1,000. These funds are distributed at the beginning of the first semester of post-secondary education and can be applied to any component of the student's comprehensive tuition and fees. We believe that by alleviating some of the financial burdens associated with education, we can empower students to focus on their studies and achieve their full potential.

Eligibility Requirements and Selection Process

Eligibility Requirements:

To ensure fairness and transparency in the selection process, all applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

Graduating Senior Status: Applicants must be current graduating seniors of a high school or homeschool program.

Membership with Sunrise Family Credit Union: Applicants must be members of Sunrise Family Credit Union, and their accounts must be in good standing.

Proof of Acceptance: Applicants must provide proof of acceptance at an accredited college, university, or trade school. This can be in the form of a letter of acceptance or correspondence from the admissions department.

Academic Achievement and Community Involvement: Applicants must demonstrate academic excellence and active involvement in their community.

Selection Process:

The selection committee responsible for reviewing scholarship applications consists of dedicated Sunrise Family Credit Union employees and volunteers. These individuals bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the selection process, ensuring that each application is thoroughly evaluated.

Applications will be reviewed based on the established selection criteria, which include community involvement, the quality of the essay response, and cumulative GPA. The committee will assess each application holistically, taking into account the applicant's achievements, contributions to the community, and academic potential.

After careful consideration, the committee will select the most deserving candidates to receive the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship. Recipients will be notified by mail and announced publicly to celebrate their accomplishments and encourage others in our community to pursue their educational goals.

We are grateful to our dedicated committee members for their commitment to this important process and their role in shaping the future of our community. Together, we strive to empower and support the next generation of leaders as they embark on their educational journeys.

Application:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

Date of Birth:

Social Security Number:

Sunrise Family CU Member Number:

Name of High School:

Current Grade:

Date of Graduation:

Cumulative GPA:

College/University/Trade School:

Planned Field of Study:

Documentation of Community Involvement and Achievements

As part of the application process for the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship, applicants are required to submit a separate document detailing their community involvement, volunteer hours, work history, and any other relevant skills, honors, achievements, or awards. This documentation is crucial in providing the scholarship committee with a comprehensive understanding of each applicant's contributions to their community and personal achievements.

Please ensure that your documentation includes the following information for each activity or achievement:

Full Name of Organization/Company or Individuals Affected: Clearly state the name of the organization, company, or individuals impacted by your volunteer service or involvement. This helps the committee understand the context and significance of your contributions.

Grade Level During the Activity: Specify the grade level you were in when you participated in the activity or achieved the honor. This provides context for the timeline of your involvement and showcases your commitment over time.

Honor, Achievement, or Award: Describe any honors, achievements, or awards you received in relation to the activity. This could include recognition for outstanding performance, leadership, or dedication.

Position(s) Held and Descriptions: Provide details about the role or position you held within the organization or activity. Describe your responsibilities, contributions, and the impact of your efforts. Be specific and highlight any leadership roles, special projects, or initiatives you were involved in.

By meticulously documenting your community involvement and achievements, you provide the scholarship committee with valuable insights into your character, dedication, and potential for future success. This information will be carefully considered alongside your application materials to determine the most deserving recipients of the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship.

Please ensure that your documentation is accurate, organized, and clearly presented. Failure to provide complete and detailed information may affect the evaluation of your application. We appreciate your commitment to community service and look forward to reviewing your contributions as part of the scholarship selection process.

Essay Guidelines: "People Helping People"

To complete your application portfolio for the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship, you are required to compose a thoughtful essay on the topic provided. The essay should be between 300 to 400 words in length and must be typed with proper grammar and punctuation.

Essay Topic:

"What does the Credit Union philosophy of 'People helping People' mean to you?"

Evaluation Criteria:

We are seeking applicants who demonstrate a clear dedication to making a positive impact in our community and exhibit a genuine passion for lifelong learning. Your essay should reflect your understanding of the Credit Union philosophy and how it resonates with your personal values and experiences. Consider the following points when crafting your essay:

Understanding of the Philosophy: Explain your interpretation of the Credit Union philosophy of "People helping People." What does this principle mean to you on a personal level? How do you perceive the importance of community support and collaboration?

Personal Connection: Share any personal experiences or anecdotes that illustrate the significance of helping others and the impact it has had on your life. How have you been involved in activities or initiatives that align with this philosophy?

Vision for the Future: Describe how you envision embodying the principle of "People helping People" in your future endeavors. How do you plan to contribute to the betterment of your community or society as a whole?

Passion for Learning: Demonstrate your enthusiasm for lifelong learning and personal growth. How do you believe education plays a role in empowering individuals to make a positive difference in the lives of others?

Good Luck and Be Creative:

We encourage you to approach this essay with creativity and authenticity. Use this opportunity to showcase your unique perspective, voice, and aspirations. We look forward to reading your thoughtful responses and learning more about your commitment to serving others and pursuing educational excellence.

Remember, your essay is an integral part of your application, providing insight into your character, values, and aspirations. Take your time to reflect on the topic and craft a compelling narrative that highlights your dedication to making a difference in the world. We wish you the best of luck in your application process!

Application Checklist

Please ensure that you have gathered all required documents and completed all necessary steps for your Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship application. Applications must be submitted by the designated deadline to be considered for review.

1. **Completed Application Form**

- Ensure that all sections of the application form are filled out accurately and completely.

2. **300-400 Word Essay**

- Compose an essay addressing the prompt: "What does the Credit Union philosophy of 'People helping People' mean to you?"
- Essay must be typed and grammatically correct.

3. **Proof of Acceptance**

- Provide proof of acceptance at an accredited college, university, or trade school.
- Acceptable documents include a letter of acceptance or correspondence from the admissions department.

4. **Most Recent Report Card or Transcript**

- Submit a copy of your most recent report card or transcript showing cumulative GPA.

5. **Documentation of Community Involvement and Achievements**

- Prepare a separate document outlining your community involvement, volunteer hours, work history, and any other relevant skills, honors, achievements, or awards.
- Include full name of organizations/companies or individuals affected, grade level during the activity, honor/achievement/award, and position(s) held with descriptions.

6. **Submission Options**

- Applications can be submitted either by mail, in-person or email.
 - Mail: Postmarked by April 18, 2025, to Sunrise Family Credit Union, Attn: Camara Mackey, 404 S. Euclid Ave., Bay City, MI 48706.
 - In-Person: Visit 404 S. Euclid Ave., Bay City, MI 48706 to submit application in person
 - Email: Send to cmackey@sunrisefamilycu.org by April 18, at 11:59pm.

7. **Deadline**

- The complete application and required supplements and documentation must be received no later than April 18, 2025. Recipients will be notified on Friday, April 25, 2025.

Note: Incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be considered for the scholarship. Please review your application materials carefully to ensure all requirements are met. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Camara Mackey at cmackey@sunrisefamilycu.org.

I certify that I have read and understood the requirements and guidelines of the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship program. I acknowledge that Sunrise Family Credit Union reserves the right to select scholarship recipients based on the criteria outlined in the scholarship program description.

If selected as a recipient, I authorize the release of information regarding my community service activities, essays, and images/photos of myself in media and marketing materials for publicity purposes.

Recipient(s) of the Sunrise Family Credit Union Scholarship are required to promptly notify Sunrise Family Credit Union of any change of address or school enrollment.

Acknowledgement: I acknowledge that the information included in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

If Applicant is under 18 years of age.

Disclaimer: Sunrise Family Credit Union does not discriminate on the basis of age, marital status, gender, race, color, height, weight, religion, national origin, veteran's status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or disability.