



2025 FRS Scholarship Program

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) awards scholarships annually to graduating high school students for their first year of college or vocational school. All applicants require partnership with an NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association member company to be eligible.

FRS has awarded more than \$1 million in scholarships since its inception, empowering students across the country to advance their communities with invaluable skill sets and experiences.

In cooperation with NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association and its members, FRS seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. Through various programs and initiatives, FRS strongly supports the continuing education of rural youth.

How to apply for FRS Scholarships:

1. Identify the NTCA Member in your community. It is likely your telephone or internet provider.
2. Visit www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships to find a link to the scholarship platform, *Kaleidoscope*. You must access the application via the Kaleidoscope link on the FRS website.

Applications close on February 14, 2025

All scholarship awards are paid directly to the educational institution the student will be attending.

Foundation for Rural Service

4121 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1000 Arlington, VA 22203
703-351-2026 | scholarships@frs.org
www.frs.org/scholarships



One application qualifies a student for all available FRS scholarships.

FRS General Scholarship

\$2,500 awarded for the first year of 2-year or 4-year college or vocational school.

V+C Trust Scholarship

\$9,000 awarded to two students from rural communities who are interested in pursuing studies related to environmental sustainability, social justice, telecommunications, or economic development.

Everett Kneece Scholarship

\$7,000 awarded in honor of the generous philanthropist Everett Kneece, who had a passion for rural America.

Herbert and Isabel Bitz Memorial Scholarship

\$5,000 to one student who exhibits a strong dedication to rural America.

JSI Scholarship

\$5,000 awarded to students interested in science, math, medicine, or engineering.

Sarah Tyree Good Neighbor Scholarship

\$5,000 awarded to students who demonstrate what it means to be a “good neighbor” through humanitarianism, inclusion, and kindness to others.

Cronin Communications Scholarship

\$2,500 awarded thanks to the generosity of the Timothy Evan Owens Foundation.

Diana Jo Dreyer Memorial Scholarship

\$2,500 awarded thanks to INDATEL Services LLC to a woman who intends to study business.

TMS Scholarship

\$1,500 awarded to students who are customers of Ardmore Telephone and/or West Kentucky and Tennessee Telecommunications Cooperative.

Roger Cox Scholarship

\$1,000 awarded to students living in rural areas of North Carolina and South Carolina.

Terms and Conditions

- All applications will be reviewed, and awardees selected by a qualified selection committee.
- Scholarships will be awarded without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, or disability.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Any use of artificial intelligence (AI) to answer any questions on this application is not permitted. Plagiarism is also not permitted. Each application will be checked for A.I. and plagiarism, and if either are found, the application will be immediately removed from consideration.
- Scholarships are a one-time award. Scholarships can be deferred for one year.
- Awards will be paid upon proof of registration at a 2-year, 4-year, or vocational college or university.
- Awards will be issued by August 2025.
- All awards will be paid directly to the educational institution the student will attend.
- Awardees will forfeit their scholarship if mandatory paperwork is not received by FRS within 60 days of notification that they have been selected.
- Recipients will be contacted directly and names will be posted to www.FRS.org/scholarships in the spring.



Who is eligible to apply?

Each applicant must:

- Be a graduating high school senior.
- Be a United States citizen.
- Be sponsored by a current member of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (Contact your local telecommunications provider to determine if the company is an NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association member and if they are participating in the FRS Scholarship program.
- Express an interest to return to a rural community following graduation, as discussed in the essay.

What does the application include?

To complete the online application, you will need the following items:

- A 500-800 word essay about your intended area of study and how it could benefit your rural community. Proofread your essay before submitting because the essay is the most important part of the application.
- Email addresses for two people who can provide a letter of recommendation. Only one of these people may be a teacher, counselor, or educator.
- High school transcript with 7 semesters. It does not need to be an official copy.
- The correct name of the NTCA member company that will sponsor your application.

For more information and the link to the application on Kaleidoscope, visit www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships.

You must access the application via the Kaleidoscope link.

All applications must be submitted by February 14, 2025 at 11:59pm EST.

Eligibility:

- Be a graduating high school senior.
- Be a United States citizen.
- Be sponsored by a current NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association member.
- Express an interest to return to a rural community following graduation.

Before you start you will need the following:

- Know your NTCA Member – Select **Wilson Communications, Wilson, KS** as your sponsoring member.
- A 500-800 word essay about your intended area of study and how it could benefit your rural community. Proofread your essay before submitting because the essay is the most important part of the application.
- Email addresses for two people who can provide a letter of recommendation. Only one of these people may be a teacher, counselor, or educator.
- High school transcript with 7 semesters. It does not need to be an official copy.

The information below is in the same order as the application.

- Student Information
 - Name
 - Email address. Use a personal email address that will be active after High School
 - Phone number
 - Mailing address
 - Are you a United States Citizen?
- Find your NTCA member.
 - Select Wilson Communications – Wilson, KS.
- High School Information
 - Name of high school
 - High school phone number
 - Are you graduating in the Spring of 2025?
 - Please list the range on which your school scores their GPA.
 - Would you prefer to include your ACT, SAT score or neither?
 - Upload your seven (7) semester transcript.
- College or Vocational School Information
 - Name of College, University or Vocational/Technical school you plan to attend.
 - Address of the Institution you plan to attend.
 - Telephone number of college, university or vocational/technical school
 - Intended major or area of study
- Work Experience, Activities, Awards, & Honors
 - Upload your work experience, activities, awards and honors resume.
- Type a 500-800 word essay about your intended area of study and how you believe it could benefit your rural community. The essay is one of the most important parts of your application and is your opportunity to stand out from the other applicants. Also, don't forget to proofread it.
 - Any use of artificial intelligence (A.I.) to answer any questions on this application is not permitted. Plagiarism is also not permitted. Each application will be checked for A.I. and plagiarism, and if either are found, your application will be immediately removed from consideration.
- Additional Information (optional)
 - Please share any additional information the selection committee should know. (i.e., family need or hardships overcome)

- Letters of References
 - The application requires two letters of recommendation, only one of which may be from an educator. Letters should be provided by someone who can describe your skills, accomplishments and personality (examples include telephone company personnel, elected official, local business leader, employer, etc.). There is not a standard form to be used for these letters of recommendation.
 - An email will be sent to your reference upon completing this step. Please talk to your reference prior to submitting their information. It is the student's responsibility to ensure BOTH references are completed.
 - The deadline for the scholarship application closes on February 14 at 11:59pm EST. Your recommenders will have until February 28 at 11:59pm EST to complete their recommendation.
 - If your recommender has troubles with their email, they can use these instructions to access their recommendation request:
 - *Instructions:*
 - Step 1: Login!**
If this is the first time you've logged in to Kaleidoscope, you should have received another email welcoming you to Kaleidoscope. Open the link in the welcome email – an account has already been created for you, you need to set your password. If you have been on Kaleidoscope before, login at <https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/login> using the password you already set up. The recommendation request will be waiting for you! If you have not been on Kaleidoscope before, you can use the "Forgot Password" button at the bottom of the login page to set your own and login. If you require assistance, please email help@mykaleidoscope.com
 - Step 2: Complete the Recommendation.**
 - Step 3: You're done! Thanks for helping our applicants.**
 - Add Contributor – You will need their Name and Email Address
- Applicant Signature & Certification
- Disclaimer
- Final Review and Submit