

Cultivating Resources & Opportunities
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2026

The Cultivating Resources and Opportunities Community Foundation provides scholarships to students residing in Eastern Wake County.



SCHOLARSHIPS

- ✓ **CRO Community Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000 Award**
General scholarship for high school seniors planning to attend a four-year college or university.
- ✓ **CRO Excellence In Service Scholarship - \$2,000 Award**
Open to high school students pursuing a degree from a two-year community college or current community college students entering their second year.
- ✓ **CRO Business & STEM Scholarship - \$3,500 Award**
For high school seniors planning to pursue business or STEM degrees at a four-year college or university.
- ✓ **Crystal Creech Shepherd Memorial Scholarship - \$3,500 Award**
General scholarship for high school seniors planning to attend a four-year college or university.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ✓ **Minimum GPA: 2.9 or higher on a 4.0 scale.**
- ✓ **Resident Requirement: Must live in Knightdale, Wendell, Zebulon, Rolesville, or Wake Forest**



SCAN FOR MORE INFO
www.crocommunityfoundation.org/scholarships

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ **Submit an Application**
- ✓ **Provide Transcripts**
- ✓ **Essay Questions Submission**
- ✓ **Letters of Recommendation**

**Please visit the CRO Foundation website for the full list of application requirements.*



The application period now runs through **MAY 15, 2026.**

The Cultivating Resources and Opportunities (CRO) Community Foundation is committed to increasing access to education and reducing student debt.

Please read through this overview carefully.

The application deadline is now **Friday, May 15, 2026, 11:59 PM EST**.

Awardees will be contacted via email and invited to attend a reception on **June 27, 2026**.

Applicants may apply to more than one scholarship, pending they meet the qualifications.

Applications will be fairly reviewed without regard to applicant's sex, race, creed, color, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and/or disability. Applicants who are not selected for an award will be notified via email.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ✓ **Minimum GPA:** 2.9 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- ✓ **Resident Requirement:** Must live in Knightdale, Wendell, Zebulon, Rolesville, or Wake Forest.
- ✓ Students under 18 must submit a signed parental consent form.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ Submit an Application via each scholarship's unique link
- ✓ Provide Official Transcripts (authenticated documentation required)
- ✓ Essay Responses (250–500 words per question)
- ✓ Letters of Recommendation (minimum 1, maximum 2) on official letterhead
- ✓ Resume including volunteer and extracurricular activities

Scholarship awardees must confirm Fall 2026 enrollment before the award is confirmed. The scholarship award will be submitted directly to the awardee's academic institution.

Application Submission Procedure

- Each scholarship has a unique application link. Applicants will only be considered for the scholarships they apply for.
- Parental consent is required for applicants under 18. Access the parental consent form [here](#) and upload the signed document using this [link](#).
- Upload all documents with the file name:
(Last Name_First Name_Scholarship Acronym_Submission Date).
- Answer all questions in the scholarship form and essay questions.
- Recommendation letters on official letterhead should be signed by the author and state the following:
 - Relationship to the applicant
 - Example of academic achievement
 - Example of service to local and/or academic community, church, and/or teammates, etc.
- Upload a copy of your official transcript.
 - Wake County high school students, please access [WCPSS Records Request](#) to order your transcript.
 - Community College students, please access your school's online order form or visit the applicable student support office in person.
 - Upload your transcript [here](#) with the file name (Last Name_First Name_School Name_Submission Date)

Please note only official transcripts will be accepted. Applications submitted without official (authenticated) documentation will be considered incomplete and disqualified from consideration.

If you have questions, please email crocomfoundation@gmail.com.

Scholarships and Eligibility Criteria

- **CRO Community Foundation Scholarship** | [APPLICATION LINK](#)
 - The scholarship is eligible to high school seniors pursuing a four-year college or university degree.
- **CRO Excellence in Service Scholarship** | [APPLICATION LINK](#)
 - Eligible to high school students pursuing a degree from a two-year community college or currently enrolled community college students going into their second year. Applicants must illustrate service to their local and/or academic community.
- **CRO Business & STEM Scholarship** | [APPLICATION LINK](#)
 - Eligible to high school seniors planning to pursue a degree in business or STEM at a four-year college or university. Applicants will share accomplishments and/or interests in the business and STEM fields.
- **Crystal Creech Shepherd Memorial Scholarship** | [APPLICATION LINK](#)
 - The scholarship is eligible to high school seniors pursuing a four-year college or university degree.