



## **Meritus Credit Union 2026 Scholarship Program**

Established in 2004, the Meritus Credit Union Scholarship Program awards six (6) \$2,000 scholarships to eligible members graduating from high schools in Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes. The Scholarship Program provides financial support for continuing education to graduating high school students that possess academic potential and a desire to succeed.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be considered for this scholarship, the applicant must:

- be a Meritus Credit Union member in good standing (member = primary owner of an active savings account)
- be graduating from an accredited high school located in Meritus Credit Union's field of membership (Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes)
- be graduating in the Spring of 2026 with plans to attend an accredited college, university or technical school in the Fall of 2026
- have maintained a 3.0 GPA based on 7 high school semesters
- have scored 21 or higher on the ACT exam or 1060 or higher on the SAT exam
- complete the scholarship application and submit it with a personal essay and the other required documents

Immediate family members (parents, children, siblings) of current Meritus Credit Union Board of Directors, Supervisory Committee members and employees are not eligible for the scholarship.

Meritus Credit Union membership is available to anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin or Vermilion Parish. Membership is also available to immediate family members (spouse, child, sibling, parent, grandparent, grandchild, stepparents, stepchildren, step-siblings and adoptive relationships) of current Meritus Credit Union members. Membership is obtained by opening a membership savings account.

### **SELECTION**

Eligible scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee selected by the Meritus Credit Union Board of Directors. Finalists will attend formal interviews conducted by the Scholarship Committee. Six (6) recipients will then be selected to each receive a one-time \$2,000 Meritus Credit Union Scholarship.

### **AWARD**

The Scholarship Committee will award a total of \$12,000 in scholarships to six recipients. Each recipient will receive a one-time \$2,000 scholarship for study beginning in Fall 2026. The scholarship can be used for any school-related expenses. A check will be issued in Fall 2026 once proof of school registration has been provided to Meritus Credit Union.

### **APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Applicants must submit the following documents in one application package submission to qualify for consideration.

- a completed scholarship application form
- a current high school transcript
- copy of ACT or SAT results
- one letter of recommendation
- a personal essay



### **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Application packages (application, letters of recommendation, official transcript, copy of ACT or SAT scores and essay) must be **received no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2026** by mail or dropping off at a Meritus Credit Union branch location. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all documents are received by Meritus Credit Union by the deadline. Incomplete or late application packages will not be considered.

#### **Mail**

Meritus Credit Union  
ATTN: Scholarship Committee  
515 Guilbeau Road  
Lafayette, LA 70506

#### **Hand Deliver**

Acadia Branch  
331 Odd Fellows Road  
Crowley, LA 70526

Carencro Branch  
724 Veterans Drive  
Carencro, LA 70520

Iberia Branch  
1101 Parkview Drive  
New Iberia, LA 70563

Lafayette Branch  
515 Guilbeau Road  
Lafayette, LA 70506

### **AWARD DATE & NOTIFICATION**

Scholarship recipients will be notified in April 2026. All other applicants will be sent an email update and results will be made public shortly thereafter.

### **QUESTIONS**

Please direct questions regarding the Meritus Credit Union scholarship to Nicole Patin, Administrative Assistant at 337.989.2800 ext 340.



## Meritus Credit Union 2026 Scholarship Application

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Complete the following application in its entirety. You may use attachments as needed.

#### **I. Student Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

City/State Zip

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation (MM/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_

School you plan to attend after graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Major / Field of Study \_\_\_\_\_

#### **II. Essay**

Attach a typed essay incorporating the following topics: why you are deserving of this scholarship, your goals for the future and how you plan to achieve those goals. The essay must be a minimum of 500 words and a maximum of 1,000 words.

#### **III. References**

Attach one letter of recommendation. A letter from one of your senior class teachers or guidance counselors is preferred.

#### **Recommendation Letter:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Address Relationship/Title



#### IV. School Clubs and Sports

List all school club memberships, academic organizations, and athletic programs that you have been affiliated with during high school. For each, include all offices or positions held, the years of involvement and a contact for the group. Please see the examples listed below. You may attach a resume as supporting information, but you must complete this worksheet to be credited for all activities.

Club or Sport	Office or Position	Dates Affiliated	Contact Name & Phone Number
<i>4-H</i>	<i>Member / President</i>	<i>2021 – 2024</i>	<i>John Smith 337-123-4567</i>
<i>Baseball</i>	<i>Outfield / 2<sup>nd</sup> Base</i>	<i>2020 – 2024</i>	<i>Babe Ruth 337-987-6543</i>
<i>Beta Club</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>2022 – 2024</i>	<i>Jane Doe 337-345-6789</i>



## V. Community Service Activities

List all volunteer activities associated with school clubs, academic organizations, and community groups/organizations. For each organization, include the total number of hours for the duration of your involvement. For example, if you've volunteered 1 hour per week for 8 weeks at the homeless shelter, your total involvement would be 8 hours. You may attach a resume as supporting information, but you must complete this worksheet to be credited for all activities.

Organization Name	Involvement (Type of Activity)	Total Hours	Dates Affiliated	Contact Name & Phone Number
<i>Beta Club</i>	<i>Volunteered at Homeless Shelter</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>John Smith 337-123-4567</i>
<i>Church Youth Group</i>	<i>Clean up church grounds</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>Jane Doe 337-123-4567</i>



**VI. Honors and Academic Achievements**

A. Honor Societies \_\_\_\_\_

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B. Local, State & National Achievements \_\_\_\_\_

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C. Scholarships \_\_\_\_\_

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D. Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

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**VII. Signature**

I certify that the information in this application and all accompanying documents is true and correct. I also certify that I personally answered all questions and wrote the essay relating to this scholarship application. I agree that Meritus Credit Union may use my name and photograph for publicity purposes.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know how you learned about the Meritus Credit Union Scholarship.

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