



Joseph McCloskey Schmidt Scholarship
Applicant Requirements 2026 – 2027 School Year

- Student must be entering the 8th grade at a college preparatory high school for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Student must have a minimum 3.0 overall GPA.
- Student must display acceptable conduct and attendance in school.
- Student must be involved in school clubs, athletics, church, community and/or volunteer activities.
- Student must plan to attend college after high school graduation.
- Students standardized test scores must meet the minimum requirements listed below. Each school takes different tests, submit the scores of the standardized test your school administers.

Minimum Standardized test requirements:

LEAP – Basic or above in all subject areas

High School Placement Test - 50%ile or above

ACT Aspire – 50%ile or above

Documents required for application:

1. Complete the Parent/Student Application.
2. Submit at least 2 recommendation letters that can be written by teachers, coaches, church, and/or community leaders.
3. Submit report cards for the past 3 years.
4. Submit standardized test scores for the past 3 years.
5. Submit any past evaluations.
6. Submit all financial records/documentation listed on page 10.

***Important - All essays should be written without the use of AI chatbot programs, such as ChatGPT, QuillBot, Google Gemini, etc. Use of these programs will lead to disqualification of your application. The purpose of the essays is for the PLEASE Foundation to gain a better understanding of the applicant and their family.**

Applications will not be considered until all documents are received. Applications must be postmarked by April 17, 2026.

PLEASE Foundation Scholarship Application

Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Student's age: _____ Current grade 2025-2026 school year: _____

Current School: _____

School planning on attending for the 2026-2027 school year:

Home Address: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Information:

Mother (or Legal Guardian's) Name: _____

Address:

Cell Phone: _____ Additional Number: _____

Work Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Employer: _____ Occupation: _____

Father (or Legal Guardian's) Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Additional Number _____

Work Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Employer: _____ Occupation: _____

Student Resides with: _____

How did you hear about the PLEASE Foundation (be specific):

Applications must be postmarked by April 17, 2026

Applications accepted by MAIL ONLY - DO NOT EMAIL Applications. Mail to:

PLEASE Foundation, P.O. Box 9223, Metairie, LA 70055

Please DO NOT contact the Foundation. Only semifinalists will be notified to schedule an interview.

7. What are your goals for your future, be specific.

8. What leadership qualities do you possess and how have you used them in your school or community?

9. Why is it important to be a team player when you are part of an organization?

10. Everyone makes mistakes, discuss one of yours and what you learned from it?

Student Essays

***Important - All essays should be written without the use of AI chatbot programs, such as ChatGPT, QuillBot, Google Gemini, etc. Use of these programs will lead to disqualification of your application. The purpose of the essays is for the PLEASE Foundation to gain a better understanding of the applicant and their family.**

Please write essays answering the questions below. Each essay must be answered in 500 words or more.

1. Why should you be selected to receive a PLEASE Foundation Scholarship? What life experiences have shaped who you are today? What challenges have you overcome in your life? (must be answered in 500 words or more).

2. Who has been the biggest influence in your life and why? Who is your role model?
(must be answered in 500 words or more).

Parent/Guardian Essays

***Important - All essays should be written without the use of AI chatbot programs, such as ChatGPT, QuillBot, Google Gemini, etc. Use of these programs will lead to disqualification of your application. The purpose of the essays is for the PLEASE Foundation to gain a better understanding of the applicant and their family.**

Please write essays answering the questions below. Each essay must be answered in 500 words or more.

1. Why are you applying for a PLEASE Foundation Scholarship? Tell us about your family and your student applying for the scholarship. (must be answered in 500 words or more).

2. What are your hopes and dreams for your child's future? Why do you want your child to attend a college preparatory high school? (must be answered in 500 words or more).

Required Financial Records/Documentation:

1. Most recent paycheck stubs from each parent(s)
2. Most recent W-2 forms for all jobs from each parent(s)
3. Most recently filed tax return for each parent(s): 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ with any schedules required to file with tax return for example:
 - a. Schedule A - Itemized Deductions
 - b. Schedule B - Interest and Dividend Income
 - c. Schedule C - Self-Employment Income
 - d. Schedule D - Capital Gains and Losses
 - e. Schedule E - Corporation or Rental Property Income
 - f. Schedule F - Farm Income
4. Most recently filed business tax return (if applicable): 1040, 1065, 1120, 1120S
5. Documentation for any supplemental income for each parent(s): Social Security, Welfare, Food Stamps, Child Support, 1099-M Forms, Workers Compensation, Unemployment, Veterans Benefits etc.
6. Louisiana TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
7. Any other non-taxable income received.
8. Proof of household expenses examples including Rent/Mortgage, Utilities, Car Note, Student Loans, Medical Bill etc...

Applications will not be considered until ALL documents are received.

Please **DO NOT** contact the Foundation. Only semifinalists will be notified to schedule an interview.