

The Rotary Club of Yakima and the Yakima Rotary Charities 2026 Academic Scholarship Application

Note: 19 Scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each will be awarded this year.

The Rotary Club of Yakima is a club created to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster high ethical standards; the application of service in one's personal, business, and community life; and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through individuals united in the idea of service.

Rotarians live by the 4-Way Test. They ask:

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?**
 - 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
 - 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
 - 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**
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Academic Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

1. The scholarship is to be used at a post-high school institution beginning in the fall after graduation from high school. The award will be sent directly to the student's college or university upon proof of actual full-time enrollment.
2. Scholarships will be awarded based on the following criteria:
 - Academic performance.
 - Service and leadership exhibited within the school environment.
 - Community service and leadership exhibited outside of school.
 - Personal Essay (see instructions on page 4)
 - Two letters of recommendation.
 - Financial need.

Scholarships will be awarded to students who exhibit outstanding academic performance and community service, both within the school environment and the community environment, with consideration also given to need.

Instructions for Completing and Submitting the Application:

1. Carefully read and fully complete and submit the attached application and required essay.
2. Submit two (2) letters of recommendation as follows:
 - a. One letter from a teacher, counselor, or administrator
 - b. One letter from a community member (**cannot be a teacher, counselor, or administrator**)
3. Submit a transcript of grades (including a GPA). **A school official must sign or verify by email this section as to the accuracy of the information provided.**
4. FAFSA or WASFA Student Aid Report showing your Student Aid Index (SAI).

* Finalists will be **notified** the week of **April 19, 2026**, and will be asked to attend a *personal interview* that will focus on them and their future goals (5-7 minutes in length) with the Academic Scholarship Committee on either April 28th or April 30th.

Deadline for Submission: Applications **MUST BE POSTMARKED** or emailed by March 18, 2026.

Submit completed application to: **The Rotary Club of Yakima**
Academic Scholarship Committee
PO Box 464
Yakima, WA 98907-0464

Notification and Awards Ceremony: Award winners will be notified by email and letter by May 8th. Winners will be invited to attend the Downtown Yakima Rotary Club noon luncheon meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2026, to receive their awards.

**ROTARY CLUB OF YAKIMA
2026 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____ GRADUATION DATE: _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY YOU PLAN TO ATTEND: _____

CRITERIA 1: SERVICE/LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

PLEASE LIST: SCHOOL HONORS, SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, SPORTS, AND LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

School Year	Honors, Sports, School Activities & Leadership Activities	Office Held (if applicable)	Date Range/ hours spent
<u>2025-26</u>	<u>Football (sample)</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Aug-Oct/160 hrs</u>
<u>2023-26</u>	<u>STEM Club (sample)</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Aug-Jun/2 hrs week</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____

CRITERIA 2: COMMUNITY SERVICE/LEADERSHIP OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

PLEASE LIST: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (**not including school activities listed above**), WHICH CAN INCLUDE PARTICIPATION IN *COMMUNITY GROUPS, CHURCH ACTIVITIES, NON-SCHOOL SPORTS, WORK ACTIVITIES, OR OTHER COMMUNITY ACITIVITIES*, AND ANY LEADERSHIP ROLES YOU'VE PLAYED IN THOSE ACTIVITIES

School Year	Community, Work, Church Activities & Leadership Roles	Office Held (if applicable)	Est. annual hours
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

CRITERIA 3: SCHOLASTIC PERFORMANCE

GPA: _____ ANTICIPATED CLASS RANK: _____ of _____

HONORS/AP/Running Start COURSES TAKEN: _____

Signature of School Official (REQUIRED): _____

CRITERIA 4: PERSONAL ESSAY

The motto of Rotary is "**Service Above Self**". The Rotary Club of Yakima is interested in hearing your ideas about how youth involvement in communities can be a positive force for change and what *Service Above Self* means to you. Please write and attach an essay of **no more than 250 words** addressing those two points.

CRITERIA 5: NEED

Note: Need will be considered as a factor. As part of the application process, you are asked to submit your FAFSA or WASFA Student Aid Report showing your Student Aid Index (SAI).

Before you send your application, please make sure that the following items are included:

- Completed Rotary Academic Scholarship Application with **REQUIRED** signatures.
- 250-word essay
- Official high school transcript
- One Letter of Recommendation from a school administrator, teacher, or counselor
- One Letter of Recommendation from a community member. (**Not a teacher, counselor, or administrator from your school**)
- FAFSA OR WASFA Student Aid Report showing your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Form must include your name on the report.

REMEMBER: COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026! APPLICATIONS CAN ALSO BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL AT yakimarotary@yakimarotary.org.

Applicant's Signature (REQUIRED): _____ **Date:** _____

Note: Please do not put any information on the back of any of these pages.
