

Camden Rotary Club



Education Scholarship Awards College, Community College, and Nursing and Vocational/Technical Programs

1. Sponsorship

The Educational Scholarship Program was initiated in 1954 as a community service of the Camden Rotary Club. Since 1994, the program has been funded largely by the Edith H. McCobb Trust in memory of her husband, Clayton R. McCobb, a former president of Camden National Bank.

2. High School Scholarship Awards

The Camden Rotary Club will award scholarships to graduating high school seniors. Scholarships can be applied to the first academic semester immediately following high school graduation and can be used for school tuition, on-campus room and board, student fees or other costs billed directly by the school. These scholarships are one-time, non-recurring awards disbursed directly to the educational institution. To receive the award payment, a student must achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 for the first semester.

3. Eligibility

A high-school scholarship candidate must meet all the following conditions:

- a. Reside in the five-town high-school catchment area of Camden, Rockport, Lincolnville, Hope and Appleton.
- b. Be a graduating senior from an accredited high school.
- c. Plan to attend an accredited university, college, community college, nursing program or vocational/technical program in the fall of the same calendar year as graduation, with the exception of students taking a gap semester or year. Attendance must be full-time.
- d. Provide evidence of participation in extracurricular activities, community involvement and/or work during the high-school years.
- e. Demonstrate academic potential for successfully completing a chosen course of studies.
- f. Provide evidence of financial need.

NOTE: Children of Rotarians may apply for a scholarship award if they meet the above requirements.

4. Criteria for Selection

The Camden Rotary Club Scholarship Committee will evaluate candidates using evidence of the following:

- a. Academic achievement
- b. Character
- c. Involvement in community organizations and activities
- d. Financial need

5. Important Dates

March 1	Student application process begins.
April 20	Last day to file Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) in time to meet the Rotary scholarship deadline. (FAFSA can take up to 10 days to process.)
May 1	Student application deadline. All application materials must be delivered to the high school academic counseling office or postmarked by this date. * No late or incomplete applications will be considered. *
Middle of May	Finalists are notified of interview date, time, and location.
Third week of May	Interviews will be conducted by members of the Camden Rotary Scholarship Committee.
Last week of May	The Scholarship Committee will select final award winners.
Early June	Scholarships will be announced at the schools' awards event. Students will receive information about submitting a request for award payment in the <i>Camden Rotary Scholarship Memorandum</i> .
August	Scholarship winners will be invited to a Rotary luncheon to share their academic plans.
End of first semester	Each student will write to the Camden Rotary Scholarship Committee requesting payment of their award by 1) enclosing their personal Camden Rotary Scholarship Memorandum, and 2) requesting that their college/program school registrar's office send an official copy of their transcript to Camden Rotary Club Scholarship Committee.

6. Application Package

The application package includes the following items:

- a. A completed Camden Rotary Scholarship Application (available from Camden Hills Regional High School or on the Camden Rotary Club website: www.camdenrotary.org)
- b. Two letters of recommendation from individuals who are not related to the candidate (forms available on the Camden Rotary website):
 - One letter from a current or past high-school teacher or school administration official

- One letter from a coach, club advisor, volunteer organization leader, supervisor, employer, or similar
- c. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) statement of expected family contribution (EFC). (Include an explanation of anything impacting financial need that is not reflected in the FAFSA.)
- d. College's estimated cost of attendance and financial aid package.
- e. Official information from the high school: high-school transcripts and cumulative GPA.

7. Application Process

- a. Submit the application form, FAFSA statement and the college's estimated cost of attendance and financial aid package to the high school counseling office by **May 1st**.
- b. Request letters of recommendation to be submitted to the school counseling office no later than **May 1st**.
- c. Letters of recommendation for Camden Hills Regional High School (CHRHS) students may be hand-delivered or mailed to: Camden Hills Regional High School, Attn: Registrar, School Counseling Department, 25 Keelson Drive, Rockport, ME 04856
- d. For other high schools, letters of recommendation should be sent to the school's counseling office.
- e. The high school will provide six copies of each application package to the Camden Rotary Scholarship Committee.
- f. If you have any questions, contact your high school's counseling office.

8. Interview

- a. Candidates will be interviewed by members of the Camden Rotary Club Scholarship Committee.
- b. Interviews will be conducted during the third week of May. Interview times and locations will be scheduled through each high school's counseling office.

9. Scholarship Award Announcement

- a. For CHRHS, Camden Rotary scholarships will be announced during Awards Night.
- b. For other high schools, the scholarships will be announced during award events.

10. Scholarship and Payment Criteria

- a. For students receiving a scholarship, a *Camden Rotary Scholarship Memorandum* will be provided along with instructions for requesting scholarship payment. If the *Memorandum* has been misplaced, contact the high school and ask for a replacement.
- b. For the scholarship award to be paid, the student must:
 1. Remain a full-time student throughout the semester and complete the semester with a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
 2. Request that the college/program registrar's office send an official copy of the student's transcripts to: Camden Rotary Club, Attn: Scholarship Committee Chair, PO Box 602, Camden, ME 04843

- c. Request scholarship payment by mailing a copy of the Camden Rotary Scholarship Memorandum, including the address of the college/program's Financial Aid Office, to the Camden Rotary Scholarship Committee Chair, at the above address.
- d. Both the transcripts and the scholarship check request must be sent not later than February 28.
- e. The Scholarship Committee may, in coordination with the Club Treasurer, permit electronic scholarship payments. Many colleges authorize systems like eScript-Safe.
- f. Payment will be made directly to the educational institution upon satisfactory completion of the above.

Thank you for applying. We wish you well in your educational pursuits.