



Chef Carl Ruiz Culinary Arts Education Scholarship 2026-27 Guidelines

Scholarship Information

The Chef Carl Ruiz Culinary Arts Education Scholarship was established in memory of Chef Carl Ruiz by his family and friends to provide scholarship awards to assist qualified students who are in pursuit of an apprenticeship, certification, or post-secondary education in the area of Culinary Arts through an accredited culinary or hospitality school program.

Eligibility Criteria-Applicants must meet the following criteria for consideration:

1. Applicant must show evidence they have been accepted or are currently enrolled at Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, Louisiana or Technical College of the Lowcountry, Bluffton, South Carolina.
2. Applicant is pursuing a degree, certificate or taking courses in the Culinary Arts or Hospitality fields.

Application Requirements

1. A completed online scholarship application.
2. A personal statement within the scholarship application form addressing the following:
 - a. How do you plan to keep the “Ruizing Spirit” alive through your education and/or career endeavors?
 - b. What are your aspirational goals and how will this support help you to move toward achieving those goals?
3. Selected finalists may be required to participate in a virtual or

Scholarship Type	Post-Secondary culinary arts or Hospitality Degree, Certificate or Program	How to Apply	Click Here Scholarship Portal Code: Ruiz-25
Award	Varied, may have multiple recipients	Deadline	December 5, 2025

Selection of Recipients

The Scholarship Advisory Committee shall select recipients (subject to approval by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry Board of Directors). Scholarship funds will be awarded to cover educational costs for: tuition/fees, room and board, and books. Specific costs to be covered will be at the discretion of the Scholarship Advisory Committee. Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, religion, age, or national origin.

Announcement of Scholarship Awards

The Community Foundation of the Lowcountry will send an official award letter and related information to each recipient. A public announcement of scholarship recipients may be arranged by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry. Recipients may be further recognized through Awards Day programs at their schools.

Distribution of Scholarship Funds

The Community Foundation will advise all scholarship recipients of the distribution method of scholarship awards and review the students' responsibilities to the Scholarship Program they have been selected for. These responsibilities may include sending transcripts at the end of the year for renewable scholarships, and providing notification of all address changes or changes in student status or enrollment. In accordance with the Community Foundation's policy, scholarship funds will be paid in the form of a check made payable to the college/school of the scholarship recipient. Checks will be mailed to the college/school. Notification of payment will be sent to the scholarship recipient.