



Jeff Katon Scholarship 2026-27 Guidelines

Scholarship Information

The Jeff Katon Scholarship was established at Community Foundation of the Lowcountry in 2007 in memory and recognition of Jeff Katon by his family and friends. Jeff was an avid golfer and local restaurateur known for his adventurous spirit and fun personality. He is also remembered for his kind generosity, strong friendships, and love for his family. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide post-secondary educational scholarships for qualified students.

Eligibility Criteria

Graduating Southern Beaufort County High School senior who is a U.S. citizen and/legal resident of Beaufort County, demonstrating financial need, who has shown outstanding academic achievement and who has been accepted and will be attending an accredited college or university. Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent on an alternate scale. Must demonstrate outstanding academic and personal accomplishments along with involvement in community and/or extra-curricular activities.

Application Requirements

1. A completed [online scholarship application](#). This scholarship considers financial need in addition to other criteria, be certain to fill out the online application questions pertaining to financial need.
2. Typed essay (approximately 500-800 words) explaining how you have given back to the community through acts of kindness, generosity, honesty, respect, loyalty and a sincere desire to help others, entered into the online application.
3. An official copy of the applicant's most recent transcript(s) showing grades for at least two years, **uploaded into application via 3rd party email, from the student's high school counselor or teacher.**
4. Information from the applicant's and the applicant's parent(s) or guardian(s) federal tax returns for the last **two** years, uploaded into online application.
5. **Submission Summary** from the FAFSA - showing Student Aid Index or a written statement explaining why Federal Aid was not applied for, uploaded into the online application.
6. One completed questionnaire designed by the Jeff Katon Scholarship Committee. This questionnaire is to be completed by an adult non-family member, and submitted to the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry by deadline date. **An email will be sent to the reference, with a link to the online questionnaire.**
7. Selected finalists may be required to attend a personal interview with the Jeff Katon Scholarship Advisory Committee.

Scholarship Type	Undergraduate/Post-Secondary	How to Apply	Click Here
Award	Varied, may have multiple recipients	Deadline	March 2, 2026

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.