



The Lucrecia C. Lester Memorial Scholarship 2026-27 Guidelines

Scholarship Information

The Lucrecia C. Lester Memorial Scholarship Fund was established at Community Foundation of the Lowcountry in 2015 in memory of Lucrecia C. Lester by her family. The mission of the fund is to provide annual scholarship awards to assist qualified students who are residents of Colleton, Hampton, Jasper or Beaufort Counties located in South Carolina and who are pursuing a post-secondary education.

Eligibility Criteria

- High School senior graduating from a public high school in Community Foundation of the Lowcountry Service area, limited to Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and/or Jasper Counties
- Applicant must demonstrate financial need;
- Applicant must show extraordinary determination to improve their life through academic success and involvement in extra-curricular activities.
- Applicant must have been accepted to, and will be attending an accredited public college, university, or technical school
- Applicant must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on the SCUGP scale, or the equivalent on an alternate scale
- Applicant must also demonstrate evidence of academic and personal achievement through hard work, determination, and perseverance.

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 words) explaining how this scholarship will enable you to pursue your educational goals, 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 counselor or teacher.**
4. Information from the applicant's and the applicant's parent(s) or guardian(s) federal tax returns for the last year, uploaded into the 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. A completed financial need form for applicants, available from the online application form.
7. Selected finalists may be asked to participate in a phone or personal interview with The Lucrecia C. Lester Memorial 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.