

Tri-City Scholarship

Scholarship Information:

The number and amount of scholarships awarded will depend on the number of accepted applications. However, all applicants that are accepted and awarded the Tri-City Scholarship will receive a minimum of \$1,000. This is a one-time only scholarship and will only be awarded to seniors graduating in the year application is submitted, who have attended Cumberland Elementary School, are graduating an accredited high school program from within Harlan County, have passing grades, do not have poor attendance (excessive tardiness, high absenteeism, and/or truancy), and have submitted a complete application. The goal of this scholarship is to assist as many students as possible from the Tri-City area of Lynch, Benham, and Cumberland Kentucky with affording college/technical/trade school. All money awarded will be given to the college/technical/trade school the applicant attends in the summer/fall following the application deadline and will not be given directly to the applicant (exemptions can be made but require approval by the Tri-City Scholarship committee). If an applicant fails to attend/enroll in a college/technical/trade school or fails to submit the required information by August 31st of the calendar year following the application deadline all money awarded the applicant will be forfeited. Please note that funds are limited and that approval or denial will be based on the merits of the application and determined by the Tri-City Scholarship Fund Committee.

Submitting Scholarship Application:

Deadline: Friday, April 10th, 2026

Ways to submit:

E-Mail to:

tcscholarship@meridzo.org

Mail to:

Tri-City Scholarship
C/O Meridzo Center
PO Box 425 Lynch, KY
40855

In Person:

Cumberland Tourism
Commission
506 W Main St
Cumberland, KY 40823

Online at:

<https://www.meridzo.org/tcshcolarship>

**** Mail by Friday, April 3rd, 2026, to ensure application is received on time. ****

**** Applications submitted after deadline will not be considered. ****

Tri-City Scholarship – Directions and Checklist

Please make sure that all the required information and materials are submitted together as incomplete applications may not be considered. Also, please **make sure your application and all required documents are submitted by the application deadline** listed on page 1.

To Apply:

- Complete applicant information form of application.
- Fill out reference form of application.
- Obtain 3 reference letters. **See details on reference form for more information on persons eligible to provide a reference.**
 - Give each referee the referee letter of reference form (attached at the end of application)
 - Reference letter from an educator
 - Reference letter from someone other than an educator
 - Third Reference letter
- Fill out the activity information page of the application.
- Write and submit a 500-to-750-word essay containing the following:
 - Your connection to the Tri-City area.
 - Your realistic college and/or career plans and lifetime goals.
 - Why do you believe you are a good candidate for the Tri-City Scholarship.
- Submit a photo and typed short biography.
- Fill out the Permission to Obtain/Release Information Form
 - Applicant Signature
 - Parents Signature (if applicant in under the age of 18 at the time of application)
- Provide an official transcript of grades, attendance, and assessment scores (including ACT and/or SAT if tested).**

**** All applications should contain the most up to date and accurate information. For questions contact us at tcscholarship@meridzo.org ****

Tri-City Scholarship – Applicant Information Form

Applicants Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Applicants Physical Address: _____

Street Address

Apt/Suite

City

State

Zip Code

Applicants Mailing Address: _____

Street Address

Apt/Suite

City

State

Zip Code

Personal E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

**** E-mail should not be a Harlan County Public Schools e-mail address. Most communication will be through e-mail so be sure to check regularly and check your spam folder. ****

I am graduating from: _____

This is an accredited High School or Homeschool Program: Yes No

Dates Attended: _____

Graduation Date: _____

I attended Cumberland Elementary School: Yes No

Dates Attended: _____

Tri-City Scholarship – References Form continued

(2) Referee's Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Title: _____ Company/Organization: _____

Referee Address: _____

Street Address

Apt/Suite

City

State

Zip Code

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

(3) Referee's Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Title: _____ Company/Organization: _____

Referee Address: _____

Street Address

Apt/Suite

City

State

Zip Code

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Tri-City Scholarship – Activity Information

Please list any school activities, community activities, and/or community service activities from during your high school years. For any activities you (the applicant) were in a leadership role please specify what leadership role you were in for that activity. (Please provide dates (dates can be estimated), hours contributed (can be estimated), etcetera. Also, please provide any documentation of activities listed if possible.)

Of what value have the activities listed on this page been to you and your school/community?

Tri-City Scholarship – Essay

Please type and submit a 500-to-750-word essay containing your connection to the Tri-City area (Ex. attended Cumberland Elementary School, lived in one of the Tri-Cities of Harlan County, Kentucky, played little league sports in the Tri-Cities of Harlan County, Kentucky, etc.), your realistic college/technical/trade school plans and/or career plans, your lifetime goals and lastly why you believe you are a good candidate for Tri-City Scholarship. **Your essay must be typed.** At the top of the essay page your name with a dash and the word Essay (ex. John Doe - Essay) should be typed, centered, in Calibri, 18-point font, bold, and underlined (like the header of each page of this application). The essay itself should be typed in Calibri, 12-point font, and double spaced.

Tri-City Scholarship – Biography and Photo

Please submit a photo of yourself and a typed short biography paragraph that is no more than 250 words. You can include your college/technical/trade school plans, career plans, your lifetime goals, a thank you to those who have helped, etc. **Your biography paragraph must be typed.** At the top of the biography page your name with a dash and the word biography (ex. John Doe - Biography) should be typed, centered, in Calibri, 18-point font, bold, and underlined (like the header of each page of this application). The biography itself should be typed in Calibri, 12-point font, and double spaced.

****Please note that the Biography and Photo are not considered when making decisions on who to grant the scholarships. We simply ask for the Biography and Photo so that we can publicize the awardees of the scholarship****

**Tri-City Scholarship - Permission to Obtain/Release
Information Form**

The information submitted on my application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand the information submitted on my application is subject to verification.

I understand that biographical information and photographs will be distributed through media releases and social media to promote the scholarship program and the students selected.

I give my consent for verification of data to the selection committee and to the release of biographical information and photographs.

Signatures Required

_____	_____	_____
Applicant Signature	Applicant Printed Name	Date

If applicant is not 18 years age at the time of application:

_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Parent/Guardian Printed Name	Date

Tri-City Scholarship – Referee’s Letter of Reference Form

Applicants Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Referee’s Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Title: _____ Company/Organization: _____

Referee Address: _____

Street Address

Apt/Suite

City

State

Zip Code

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Please type and sign a letter of reference to indicate your perception of the above-named person’s ability to succeed in college/technical/trade school and later in the professional world. Make specific references to performance that you believe indicates potential success. **Please return to applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature over the seal by the application deadline!**

Referee’s Signature

Date

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