



Meritus Credit Union 2024 Scholarship Program

Established in 2004, the Meritus Credit Union Scholarship Program awards six (6) \$2,000 scholarships to eligible members graduating from high schools in Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes. The Scholarship Program provides financial support for continuing education to graduating high school students that possess academic potential and a desire to succeed.

ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship, the applicant must:

- be a Meritus Credit Union member in good standing (member = primary owner of an active savings account)
- be graduating from an accredited high school located in Meritus Credit Union's field of membership (Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes)
- be graduating in the Spring of 2024 with plans to attend an accredited college, university or technical school in the Fall of 2024
- have maintained a 3.0 GPA based on 7 high school semesters
- have scored 21 or higher on the ACT exam or 1060 or higher on the SAT exam
- complete the scholarship application and submit it with a personal essay and the other required documents

Immediate family members (parents, children, siblings) of current Meritus Credit Union Board of Directors, Supervisory Committee members and employees are not eligible for the scholarship.

Meritus Credit Union membership is available to anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin or Vermilion Parish. Membership is also available to immediate family members (spouse, child, sibling, parent, grandparent, grandchild, stepparents, stepchildren, step-siblings and adoptive relationships) of current Meritus Credit Union members. Membership is obtained by opening a membership savings account.

SELECTION

Eligible scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee selected by the Meritus Credit Union Board of Directors. Finalists will attend formal interviews conducted by the Scholarship Committee. Six (6) scholarship recipients will then be selected. Two scholarship recipients will be selected from Lafayette Parish, and one scholarship recipient will be selected from Acadia, Iberia, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes.

AWARD

The Scholarship Committee will award a total of \$12,000 in scholarships to six recipients. Each recipient will receive a one-time \$2,000 scholarship for study beginning in Fall 2024. The scholarship can be used for any school-related expenses. A check will be issued in Fall 2024 once proof of school registration has been provided to Meritus Credit Union.

APPLICATION PACKAGE

Applicants must submit the following documents in one application package submission to qualify for consideration.

- a completed scholarship application form
- a current high school transcript
- copy of ACT or SAT results
- two letters of recommendation
- a personal essay



APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application packages (application, letters of recommendation, official transcript, copy of ACT or SAT scores and essay) must be **received** no later than **Thursday, March 28, 2024** by mail or dropping off at a Meritus Credit Union branch location. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all documents are received by Meritus Credit Union by the deadline. Incomplete or late application packages will not be considered.

Mail

Meritus Credit Union
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
515 Guilbeau Road
Lafayette, LA 70506

Hand Deliver

Acadia Branch
331 Odd Fellows Road
Crowley, LA 70526

Carencro Branch
724 Veterans Drive
Carencro, LA 70520

Iberia Branch
1101 Parkview Drive
New Iberia, LA 70563

Lafayette Branch
515 Guilbeau Road
Lafayette, LA 70506

AWARD DATE & NOTIFICATION

Scholarship recipients will be notified in April 2024. All other applicants will be sent an email update and results will be made public shortly thereafter.

QUESTIONS

Please direct questions regarding the Meritus Credit Union scholarship to Nicole Patin, Administrative Assistant at (337) 989-2800 ext 340.



Meritus Credit Union 2024 Scholarship Application

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the following application in its entirety. You may use attachments as needed.

I. Student Information

Name _____
First Middle Last

Mailing Address _____
Street

City/State Zip

Age _____ Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Cell Phone _____ Email _____

High School _____ Graduation (MM/YYYY) _____

School you plan to attend after graduation _____

Major / Field of Study _____

II. Essay

Attach a typed essay incorporating the following topics: why you are deserving of this scholarship, your goals for the future and how you plan to achieve those goals. The essay must be a minimum of 750 words and a maximum of 1,000 words.

III. References

Attach two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from one of your senior class teachers.

Recommendation Letter 1:

Name Address Relationship/Title

Recommendation Letter 2:

Name Address Relationship/Title



IV. School and Community Service Activities

List all school and community activities including academic organizations, athletics, club memberships, community groups/organizations and volunteering. For each organization, include the total number of hours for the duration of your involvement. For example, if you've volunteered 1 hour per week for 8 weeks at the homeless shelter, your total involvement would be 8 hours. You may attach a resume as supporting information, but you must complete this worksheet to be credited for all activities.

| Organization Name | Involvement (Type of Activity) | Total Hours | Dates Affiliated | Contact Name & Phone Number |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Happy to Help Club</i> | <i>Volunteered at Homeless Shelter; Member</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>2021-2022</i> | <i>John Smith 337-123-4567</i> |
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V. Honors and Academic Achievements

A. Honor Societies

B. Local, State & National Achievements

C. Scholarships

D. Other (describe)

VI. Signature

I certify that the information in this application and all accompanying documents is true and correct. I also certify that I personally answered all questions and wrote the essay relating to this scholarship application. I agree that Meritus Credit Union may use my name and photograph for publicity purposes.

Signature _____ Date _____