



Kathryn R. Coleman Community Leader Scholarship

Guidelines

Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 31st, 2026

The Kathryn R. Coleman Community Leader Scholarship will be awarded to one student member to help fund his/her pursuit of a higher education.

Eligibility for **\$1,000 scholarship**:

- CommonWealth One members either graduating from high school in spring/summer 2026 or continuing studies at a college, university, or other institution of higher learning in the 2026-2027 academic year.

1. **Student applicants must be primary members of CommonWealth One**

Applicants must have an account in his or her own name at the credit union. Joint owners are **not** considered primary members.

2. Employees, directors, and committee members of CommonWealth One (and their immediate family members) are **NOT** eligible for the scholarship.

3. Applicants must submit:

- Completed scholarship application
- Official **sealed** school transcript(s)*
- Completed activities information and an essay of 250-500 words, typed and double-spaced (**Please DO NOT put your name on your essay**)
- A recent full color headshot and/or acceptance video interview will be requested if selected as winner. (Photographs and videos will be used in CommonWealth One press releases, social post and advertising).

4. The items above must be sent to CommonWealth One Headquarters and received by **Tuesday, March 31, 2026**. Incomplete or late entries will not be considered. **Submit entries to:**

CommonWealth One
ATTN: Scholarship Contest-CL
P.O. Box 9997
Alexandria, VA 22304-0797

email: scholarships@cofcu.org
Subj: Community Leader Scholarship Application

5. Applicants must be planning to attend an accredited college, university, or other institution of higher learning during the 2025-2026 academic year.

6. **The award of \$1,000...**

will be paid to the appropriate office at the educational institution of choice (must submit proof of registration). Money must be applied to the 2026-2027 academic year.

7. CommonWealth One judges' decisions are final. CommonWealth One also reserves the right to cancel the competition in the event that too few qualified applications are received.

8. Winner will be notified no later than by the beginning of May 2026. Only the winning applicant will be notified.



** Freshman applicants – please submit both a high school transcript and college transcript*

Scholarship Application

1. Please type or print your application clearly; essays should be typed and double-spaced.
2. Applicant must be a **primary member** of CommonWealth One.
3. Please **DO NOT** write your name, account number, or social security number on your essay or activities pages.
4. Application, essay, and sealed official transcripts must be received by **Tuesday, March 31, 2026**. Late entries will not be considered. **Submit completed package to:**

CommonWealth One
ATTN: Scholarship Contest-CL
P.O. Box 9997
Alexandria, VA 22304-0797

email: scholarships@cofcu.org
Subj: Community Leader Scholarship Application

I certify that all the information that I am providing is true and correct. I agree that if I am selected as a scholarship recipient, CommonWealth One may use my name, photograph and/or video (which I will provide) for publicity purposes.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Print Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

(required only if applicant is a minor)

Personal Information

Please provide contact information where you can be reached in May 2025

Name _____ **CommonWealth One Account Number** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Daytime Phone _____ **Evening Phone** _____



Email Address _____

Academic Information

High School _____

Address _____

College/university you will be, or are attending: _____

Address _____

Fall 2022 status:
(Circle one)

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

Graduate
Student

Major(s) _____

Minor

(if applicable)

Activities and Essay

List all extracurricular activities you have been involved in during high school and/or college. *Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.*



List any other activities and/or information you consider significant and would like to be taken into consideration (e.g. awards, honors, community service, work experience, etc.). *Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.*

ESSAY PROMPT: CommonWealth One FCU is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial cooperative that actively supports community development. Explain how you are/were a community leader and the impact you made. What role will/does higher education (and your studies specifically) play in being able to best serve your community?

Essays must be typewritten on a separate sheet of paper. If you applied in a previous year, you CANNOT use the same essay. Please prepare a new response.