

Security First Credit Union offers two scholarship programs to support members' educational goals. Each recipient will represent one of our 9 community branches.

Scholarships are accepted August 1 – January 31 of each year. Recipients are selected during the month of March and announced no later than April 30. Please read the following requirements for each program.

COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

- Number of Scholarships: 9
- Amount per Scholarship: \$1,000
- Eligibility: Graduating high school seniors who are primary members in good standing of Security First Credit Union.
- Requirements:
 - Unofficial copy of high school transcripts
 - Official acceptance letter from a post-secondary institution
 - Minimum cumulative GPA: 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
 - Essay
- Application of Scholarship: Fall semester of the awarded calendar year.

COLLEGE-EDITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

- Number of Scholarships: 6
- Amount per Scholarship: \$1,000
- Eligibility: Active primary members in good standing currently enrolled in a post-secondary accredited institution (trade school, vocation school, community college or university) during the awarded calendar year and has achieved a minimum of 24 college credit hours.
- Requirements:
 - An unofficial copy of the applicant's most recent transcript or
 - Proof of enrollment
 - Minimum cumulative GPA: 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
 - Essay
- Application of Scholarship: Scholarship funds can be applied to any semester, including the summer term of the awarded calendar year.

REQUIRED ESSAY - TYPED OR VIDEO FORMAT

All applications must include a typed essay **OR** a video answering one of the following prompts. **Note:** *The most important thing to remember is to be original as you share your own story, thoughts, and ideas with us.*

1. Share your story from your everyday life that reveals something about your character, values, and life that aligns with the culture and values growing up in the Rio Grande Valley.
2. Who has been the most influential person in your life, why?

ESSAY GUIDELINES:

- Typed, double-spaced
- Minimum of 500 words (College-Bound)
- Minimum of 1000 words (College-Edition)



VIDEO GUIDELINES

- Length: 1 to 2 minutes
- Format: Portrait, bright lighting, clear audio, clean background
- Show personality and creativity
- No offensive or copyrighted materials

VIDEO SUBMISSION:

- For email or mail: Include a hyperlink to your video on page 6 (e.g., Dropbox, Google Drive) or email to marketing@securityfirstcu.com with the subject line "Scholarship Application Video – [Your Full Name]. The link can also be copied and pasted on page 6.
- For online applications: Include the video link in the provided field.

OTHER

- While not required, reference letters from teachers, counselors, employers, or community leaders are strongly encouraged and can enhance your application. If unable to submit at the time of submission, please mail or email separately before the application deadline.
- All scholarship funds will be made payable directly to the applicants attending postsecondary institutions. Funds **will not** be paid out to the recipients.
- Open to Security First Credit Union employee's children.
- Not open to employees or children of Security First Federal Credit Union board members and senior staff.
- Incomplete applications will not be eligible.

HOW TO APPLY

- Online: Upload all required documents when submitting the application. Note: The application cannot be saved for later.
- Branch Drop-off or Email: Submit your application and documents at any of our nine locations or email them to marketing@securityfirstcu.com.
- Mail: Postmark your application by the deadline to:

Security First Federal Credit Union
Scholarship Program
ATTN: Marketing Department
PO BOX 4829
McAllen, TX 78502



Security First Federal Credit Union
Annual Scholarship Program



Applicant's Security First Credit Union Account Number: _____

College-Bound Applicant College-Edition Applicant

How Did You Hear About Our Scholarship: In-Branch Statement Notice Facebook

Instagram TikTok My School Other _____

First Name: _____ M.I: _____ Last Name: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____ Alternate Phone Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Email Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

COLLEGE-BOUND SECTION ONLY -----

High School Name: _____ GPA _____ Class Rank _____

Which postsecondary institution do you plan to attend for the Fall 2025 academic school year?

School Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

What degree/major will you be pursuing? _____

COLLEGE-EDITION SECTION ONLY -----

Post-Secondary Institution's Name: _____ GPA _____

In-person Online Hybrid What degree/major are you pursuing? _____

School Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please provide the last five organizations/positions you have been involved, if any:

Organization/Club	Elected Position <i>(If applicable)</i>	Dates Active
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Please provide the last five community organizations you have been involved, if any:

Activity	Accumulated Hours	Dates Active
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____
_____	_____	From _____ to _____

HONORS AND AWARDS

Please provide the last five honors/awards received, if any.

Title	Basis for Award	Years Award
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



WORK HISTORY - PAID OR VOLUNTEER

Please list jobs you have held or are currently holding. Provide a brief description of your position and responsibilities, dates of employment, and hours worked weekly, monthly, or annually.

Business:

Position: _____

Date: from _____ **to** _____

Hours Worked: ____ Weekly Monthly Annually

Responsibilities:

Business:

Position: _____

Date: from _____ **to** _____

Hours Worked: ____ Weekly Monthly Annually

Responsibilities:

Business:

Position: _____

Date: from _____ **to** _____

Hours Worked: ____ Weekly Monthly Annually

Responsibilities:

ESSAY VIDEO HYPERLINK

Please copy and paste video essay hyperlink here:

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE (OPTIONAL)

Please explain below. Note: This section is only if you have an extenuating circumstance you would like to include. It is **NOT** for the required essay.



SUBMISSION OPTIONS

- **ONLINE:** Be prepared to upload all required documents at the time of submitting the application. There is no option to save for later. Visit securityfirstcu.com/scholarship-program to apply. The deadline to submit is **11:59 PM on January 31, 2025.**
- **MAIL:** Must be postmarked by **January 31, 2025.** Please mail to:

SECURITY FIRST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
Scholarship Program
ATTN: Marketing Department
PO BOX 4829
McAllen, TX 78502
- **EMAIL:** Send by January 31, 2025, 11:59 PM to marketing@securityfirstcu.com with the subject line "Scholarship Application – [Your Full Name]"
- **DROP-OFF:** Submit by January 31, 2025, 5:00 PM at any of our nine locations, **Attention: Marketing Department / Scholarship Application**

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all information provided on this application and all supporting documents are accurate and complete. I understand that any misleading or false information will result in my application being disqualified. If selected as a scholarship winner, Security First Federal Credit Union reserves the right to use the chosen applicant's name and any likeness thereof for promotional purposes, including, but not limited to, social media, print, and web.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (if applicant is under age 18)

Date