AEA Academic Scholarship Application

WHAT IS IT?

The AEA Academic Scholarship is created & funded by the teachers of Austin Public Schools. As your teachers, we recognize firsthand the profound impact that education can have on shaping futures & we are excited to support you in this next step of the journey- Apply today!

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

This scholarship opportunity is open to ALL students graduating from Austin High School who have **been accepted into AND plan on attending** a post-secondary program (college, university, tech school, culinary, etc.) for the upcoming Fall 2025.

AMOUNT AWARDED

$500-$2500

In addition to the award, you will also be given the option of a post-secondary mentor from APS

DEADLINE

To be considered for this scholarship, all application requirements must be submitted by:

April 1st, 2026

REQUIREMENTS

1. Complete all sections of this application:
   - ☐ Personal Information
   - ☐ Financial Information
   - ☐ Personal Information Checklist
   - ☐ Character References
   - ☐ Essay Question
2. Provide a copy your **acceptance letter** to your fall, post-secondary institution/program.
3. All items listed above should be **attached & submitted together** on paper OR via email:
   - ☐ **PAPER SUBMISSIONS:** Give to Ms. Carlson in the AHS Career Center
   - ☐ **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS:** Email to Mr. Compton at (tom.compton@austin.k12.mn.us)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name:	**Student ID#:**
Address:	
Phone:	**Email:**
Graduation Date:	**Culminative GPA:**
Parent/Guardian Name(s):	
Have you applied & been accepted into a post-secondary program for Fall of 2024? **Check One:** ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐ **Applied, waiting on response**	
Where is your post-secondary program for this fall located? **Check One:** ☐ **Riverland Community College** ☐ **Somewhere else in MN** ☐ **Out-of-State**	
Are you currently employed? Check One: **YES** ☐ **NO** ☐	
Employer:	**Dates Employed:**

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Please identify the estimated annual adjusted gross income (AGI) of your household:

- ☐ **Less than $80,000**
- ☐ **$80,000-$180,000**
- ☐ **More than $180,000**

Please identify the number of dependents (children) in your household:

- ☐ **1 (self)**
- ☐ **2**
- ☐ **3**
- ☐ **4**
- ☐ **5+**

Have you received any other scholarships at this time?

☐ **YES** ☐ **NO** **If YES, list name(s) and dollar amount(s)**_____

_____

Do you plan on applying for the Austin Assurance Scholarship (Attending Riverland)?

☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

Please note, applying for & receiving this scholarship could impact how much scholarship coverage you are able to qualify & receive for Austin Assurance*

Have you received any financial aid offers because of your FAFSA app & information?

☐ **YES** ☐ **NO** **If Yes, please describe** _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION CHECKLIST

Please review the list below & <u>check ALL the boxes that apply to you</u>:

- ☐ You plan on attending a post-secondary institution this coming fall
- ☐ One or both of your parents/guardians are members of the Austin Education Association (AEA)
- ☐ You are interested in/planning on pursuing a career in education.
- ☐ You are the first in your family to attend college.
- ☐ You work full-time or part-time.
- ☐ You are a care-giver for a member(s) of your family
- ☐ You participate in athletics, clubs or other extracurriculars through AHS.
- ☐ You participate in clubs, groups, organization outside of AHS in the surrounding community.

CHARACTER REFERENCES (at least one should be from school)

Reference #1	
Name:	**Position:**
Phone:	**Email:**
How long have you known them?	

Reference #2	
Name:	**Position:**
Phone:	**Email:**
How long have you known them?	

Reference #3	
Name:	**Position:**
Phone:	**Email:**
How long have you known them?	

ESSAY QUESTION

Please respond to the following essay question.

(You may attach a printed copy in lieu of writing your response below)

“Reflect on a teacher, mentor, or school staff member who inspired you to keep going during challenging moments. How did their support, encouragement, or belief in you help you develop perseverance and resilience? Describe the ways they influenced your confidence, mindset, or goals for the future.”

Response should be a minimum of 300 words & maximum of 600 words.