

2026
Florida Seafood Festival
Scholarship Program



Application and Conditions
2026

Florida Seafood Festival Scholarship Program

Introduction

The Florida Seafood Festival is a group of civic-minded volunteers which annually promotes the area's maritime heritage by hosting a celebration of the area's seafood industry. Money raised during the course of the annual festival are channeled back into the community through nonprofit organizations whose members work food booths or gate positions at the festival.

This scholarship program is intended to provide one or more Franklin County students with a scholarship as deemed appropriate by the Board but not to exceed \$1,000 to assist in his/her postsecondary undergraduate study at an accredited public or private junior college or university or in his/her continued education at an accredited vocational school.

The recipient(s) will be chosen by the members of the Florida Seafood Festival. Nominees will be ranked by: grade-point average, civic and school activities, leadership activities, letters of recommendation, and results of a submitted essay. The scholarship award must be used exclusively for tuition, books, and appropriate expenses and supplies.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Must graduate from Franklin County High School.
2. Has applied to or will apply to an accredited public or private college or university, or vocational training institute.
3. Must submit a high school transcript (grades 9-12) that includes seventh semester cumulative grade point average (un-weighted) of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.
4. Show participation in school and civic activities as well as leadership abilities.
5. Must submit two letters of recommendation that relate to the students scholastic abilities, leadership role, and civic and school activities. List awards, clubs, offices held, civic groups involved in and educational achievements.
6. Submit a one page typewritten essay expressing their goals, educational interests, and the importance of being involved in the marine science, commercial fishing or maritime vocation industry and how these goals could benefit Franklin County.

Application Process

A completed scholarship application (attached) and all documentation (letters, transcript, essay, etc.) must be submitted and post marked no later than May 1, 2026 to the Florida Seafood Festival.

Mail the information to Florida Seafood Festival, P.O. Box 758, Apalachicola, FL 32329. The committee may request a personal interview of applicants if necessary.

Award Conditions

The scholarship award shall be made in the following manner.

- (a) A scholarship selection committee composed of Festival Board members shall be established to review each application and the supporting documentation received by the May 1st deadline. This committee shall select the recipient(s) prior to graduation ceremonies. Qualification determination is within the discretion of the Florida Seafood Festival. All decisions are final.
- (b) The scholarship will be awarded to the recipient during the awards ceremony at the recipient's high school graduation program. The recipient will receive a certificate of award and award letter from the Florida Seafood Festival at graduation.
- (c) The number of scholarships awarded may vary from year to year depending on funds available for this program.
- (d) The recipient must submit proof of enrollment/registration to receive the funds within six (6) months from the date of the award.
- (e) The award must be used for tuition, books, and appropriate supplies related to attendance at a post-secondary institution.

Disbursement Conditions

Disbursement of the monetary award will be made upon receipt of proof of enrollment/registration in an accredited institution.

Forfeiture

- (a) The recipient shall forfeit the scholarship if he or she fails to show proof of acceptance to an accredited post-secondary institution.
- (b) The recipient shall forfeit the scholarship if proof of acceptance is not provided within the six (6) month timeframe.
- (c) In the event of forfeiture/disqualification, the scholarship will go to the next runner up.

Florida Seafood Festival Scholarship Program Application

Answer all the questions to the best of your ability and follow all instructions completely. Submit the completed application, post marked by May 1, 2026.

1. Name _____ Social Security Number _____

2. Permanent Address _____
Street _____ city _____ zip code _____

3. Home Phone Number _____ Birthdate _____
Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

4. Name and Address _____
of Parents/Guardians Name _____ Relationship _____
Address _____ Phone Number _____

Parents/Guardians Occupations _____

Gross Combined Parents/Guardian Income: _____

5. School Information _____
School Name _____ Phone Number _____

Name of Guidance Counselor _____

6. Number of years attended schools in Franklin County _____

7. Name of Post-Secondary Institutions you have applied to as a full-time student:

Name _____ City, State _____ Date of Acceptance _____

Name _____ City, State _____ Date of Acceptance _____

Intended Field of Study _____ nticipated Date of College Entrance: _____

8. List any academic awards received in grades 9-12. (Limit your response to the space provided)

Name _____

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9. List any leadership activities including offices held in grades 9-12. (Limit your response to the space provided)

10. List any school activities (clubs, athletics, etc.) including offices held for grades 9-12. (Limit your response to the space provided.)

11. Describe any civic/community involvement during grades 9-12. (Limit your response to the space provided.)

12. List names and addresses of those submitting letters of recommendation below. References should include at least two from teachers or counselor at your school. References should be non relatives. Each letter should relate to at least one of the categories above (participation in school activities, leadership roles or civic/community activities) and be submitted to the FSF by May 1, 2026.

Name _____

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13. Attach a one page essay expressing your goals, educational interests, and the importance of being involved in the community and how these goals could benefit Franklin County.

14. STUDENT CERTIFICATION:

I have read and understand the conditions of this application. The information contained in this application is true, complete and correct.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date: _____

IMPORTANT: Submit application to Florida Seafood Festival, P.O. Box 758, Apalachicola, FL 32329. The completed application and all necessary documentation must be postmarked by May 1, 2026 in order for the applicant to be considered for an award.

TO BE COMPLETED BY HIGH SCHOOL OFFICIAL

Projected Graduation Date: _____ Seventh Semester Cumulative GPA _____

Applicant's High School Transcript must be included with their application.

Signature of High School Guidance Counselor _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Affix School Seal _____