



Kiwanis®

Niceville-Valparaiso

Scholarship Application

The Kiwanis Club of Niceville and Valparaiso awards scholarships annually to seniors selected from graduates of Niceville High School, Rocky Bayou Christian School, or Collegiate High School at Northwest Florida State College. The number and amounts of awards vary: in 2023 four awards were made totaling \$8,000; in 2024 and 2025 extra funds enabled five awards in both years totaling \$11,000 each year. \$8000 is currently available for the class of 2026 recipients.

*Kiwanis Club scholarships recognize outstanding students **who have demonstrated a spirit of service to others during high school.** Emphasis is placed on depth and impact more than breadth of service activity and the direct, relevant observations of persons not related to the student described in letters to the scholarship committee.*

Awards are intended to assist with the expense of academic education or vocational training in pursuit of degrees or certificates and are paid to the institution providing them. Application requirements are set forth below.

CRITERIA: Recipients must have demonstrated excellence in their academic and other pursuits, high moral standards, and unselfish service to others. **NOTE:** Financial need may be considered but is not an essential criterion. FAFSA submission is optional but if submitting FAFSA please white out social security numbers.

REQUIREMENTS:

- current year graduation from Niceville High School, Rocky Bayou Christian School, or Collegiate High School at NWFSC
- an official school transcript with an explanation of the applicable school grading system and class standing
- evidence of most recent ACT and/or SAT score if tested
- at least one signed and dated letter of recommendation from a person who has personally and significantly observed the applicant and is not a relative – relevance to service is encouraged
- a cover letter no more than one page long addressed to “Niceville-Valparaiso Kiwanis Club Scholarship Committee” signed by the applicant
- a completed application, including awardee agreements – incomplete applications will not be considered

DEADLINE: Applications must be received on or before Friday, April 10th, 2026.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Obtain application forms from the high school guidance office. Submit application in hard copy, without stapling, addressed to:

Niceville-Valparaiso Kiwanis Club Scholarships
Attn: Bill Landsberg
2411 Duncan Drive
Niceville FL 32578

Applicants should direct questions to Mr. Landsberg (email: blandsberg@hotmail.com). The selected scholarship recipients will be notified by May 11th.

SELECTION RULES

- Judging will be by an impartial committee of at least three Kiwanis Club of Niceville and Valparaiso members working independently. No committee member will be related to any applicant.
- Judges will base their selections on applications submitted. Applicant's race and gender, if discernible from the application, will nevertheless not be a factor for consideration.
- Any award is discretionary and based entirely on the evaluation and judgment of the Kiwanis scholarship committee and the club's board of directors.

The scholarship recipient will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Verification of eligibility
- Application completed in full
- Demonstrated unselfish service to others and other evidence of high moral standards
- Letter(s) of recommendation relevant to the award criteria
- Scholastic achievement (class rank, ACT or SAT scores, grade point average, academic courses, etc.)
- Extracurricular activities and interests (e.g.: honors and awards, school and community involvement, JROTC, outside employment) If the applicant has been subject to multiple moves/high school enrollments due to family relocation or other reasons, the applicant may explain any impact such moves may have had on extracurricular activities and allowance therefor may be made by the committee.
- Financial need may be considered but is not a requirement.
- Integrated assessment of all the application information

POST-SELECTION PROCEDURES AND RULES

1. Official, written verification of the recipient's registration/enrollment from the institution of higher learning (student ID # is acceptable) must be received by the Kiwanis International Niceville / Valparaiso FL Chapter ("Chapter") prior to distribution of funds.

2. The Chapter will mail the check directly to the Comptroller at the institution of choice. The Comptroller will be instructed that the winner may use the money for any expenditure payable through the Registrar's Office including tuition, fees, books, room and board and other academic expenses.

3. If the winner transfers to another school before using the funds, the Comptroller may transfer the remaining funds to the Comptroller of the gaining institution. We request the Comptroller of the losing institution provide notification to the Chapter of such a transfer should it occur.

4. Should the awardee terminate his or her continuing education, the Comptroller in receipt of the funds should return any remaining funds to the Chapter.

5. Should the awardee, after accepting the Chapter scholarship, receive scholarship funding from any source sufficient to cover one or more full school years of tuition and on-campus room and board at their institution, the funds will be returned to the Chapter.

6. The winner will be notified prior to receiving the award. Failure to respond to the Chapter award within fifteen (15) days after notification with acknowledgment of acceptance constitutes a declination of the award. In that event, or if the original winner declines acceptance of the scholarship, disposition of the funds released will be determined by the scholarship committee and Chapter board of directors.

7. Any student planning delayed school enrollment must notify the Chapter so the money can be held in the student's name. The Chapter will hold the money until the end of the year of award. Money not disbursed to the student's school of choice by December 31st of the year of award will revert to the Chapter.

AWARDEE AGREEMENTS

Should I be awarded this scholarship, I agree to provide the Kiwanis Club of Niceville and Valparaiso with additional information as requested, including the address of my college or university's financial aid or scholarship office and proof of enrollment.

I agree to respond to the Kiwanis Club of Niceville and Valparaiso within fifteen (15) days after notification of a scholarship award accepting or declining it.

I further agree to allow Kiwanis International to use my photographic likeness and name in any Kiwanis related materials, public articles or public websites relating to a scholarship awarded as a result of this application.

Please print and complete by hand the following. Parent or guardian signature is required if the applicant is under the age of 18 years.

Applicant legal name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Personal information

Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone # with area code
E-mail address

School Information (Provide Key Club Information Only if Applicable)

Name of high school
Grade point average/scale
Class rank/class size
Number of years in Key Club
Key Club faculty advisor's name

College/university information

☐ I have not finalized my decision regarding the institution I will attend in the fall.

or

Name of educational or training institution you plan to attend

Complete mailing address of office to which check should be mailed

Institution phone number with area code _____

Institution e-mail address

Activity information

List school and community organizations (including Key Club) and activities (including any employment) in which you have participated. Describe your level of participation, any noteworthy impact, and list chronologically any offices held. Use a separate sheet if necessary and cite this paragraph.

Honors, awards, special recognition

List chronologically any honors, awards or special recognition you have received. Use a separate sheet if necessary and cite this paragraph.