



The Smith Mountain Branch of the American Association of University Women is offering **four \$4,500 scholarships** for the 2024-2025 academic year. Scholarships are awarded to assist Virginia women whose permanent residence is in Franklin, Bedford or Pittsylvania County in continuing their post-secondary education. The award is granted and administered by the Smith Mountain Branch of AAUW and will be forwarded directly to the recipient's college for tuition only.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

To be considered for this scholarship you must meet the following criteria:

1. You must be a female.
2. Your primary, **permanent residence** must be in Bedford, Franklin or Pittsylvania County (including Danville City).
3. You must **currently be a student pursuing a degree in an accredited** university, college or community college in the United States.
4. You must have **completed at least one semester** at an accredited United States university, college or community college.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The decision to grant a scholarship is based on the following criteria:

1. High Academic Achievement. This is based on your last official grade report and supported by two letters of recommendation, one of which must be provided by a professor.
2. Financial Need.
3. Work Experience.
4. Volunteer Experience.

Note: Some consideration is given for first generation college attendees and members of single-parent families.

APPLICATIONS (ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION IS REQUIRED)

Applications are available in college, community college or university financial aid offices, on our website smithmountain-va.aauw.net and from the Scholarship Committee contact shown below.

The following supplemental documents must be included with the completed application.

1. Essay (see application form for details).
2. Most recent official transcript.
3. Two letters of recommendation, including at least one from a professor.

All documents from the applicant should be submitted online at the [Scholarship Application portal](#).

To ensure that your materials are properly filed, **please be sure that your full name is part of the file name for each document submitted.** (If any documents are being sent directly from a university or reference, please request that they follow this convention.)

Letters of recommendation may be submitted separately to the [Scholarship Application Portal](#) or sent directly to smithmountain-va@aauw.net. Letters of recommendation should be submitted on letterhead indicating the university or organization.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications and all supporting documents must be received **no later than 12 midnight April 3, 2024**.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions may be addressed to Marsha Protinsky, Scholarship Chairperson, at smithmountain-va@aauw.net.

APPLICATION ADVICE

Please follow the directions in the application packet carefully. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Remember to include your loans, grants and college debt on your application form and address financial need in your essay. If you are the first generation in your family to attend college or you are from a single parent family, please include that in your essay.

NOTE FOR AWARDEES

Winners are strongly encouraged to attend our luncheon on Saturday, May 18, 2024 in Moneta, VA for the formal presentation of awards. If this is not possible, a written acceptance statement is required and will be read at the event by the Scholarship Chair. For questions on the attendance requirement or to submit the acceptance statement, contact the Scholarship Committee chairperson at smithmountain-va@aauw.net.