



2018 Freshman Scholarship Guidelines

The following scholarships shall be awarded to applicants selected by NILE:

- One-time scholarships in the amount of \$1,000
- Shining Star One-time scholarship given to an outstanding Freshman applicant in the amount of \$2,000
- Rolling scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 awarded annually**

**These rolling scholarships are renewable for up to 4 years, for a total scholarship of \$4,000 as long as recipient remains in good standing and adheres to additional requirements.

Applicant Qualifications

1. Must have participated in NILE activities and be currently enrolled in a 4-H or FFA program
2. Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) 2.5 or equivalent
3. Must be a graduating high school senior planning to attend a two or four-year college, university or vocational school in the academic year 2018-2019.
4. Be continually enrolled as a full-time student at their school of choice

Payment of Scholarships

Scholarship awards will be mailed directly to the college for application to tuition and fees in the school year 2018-2019.

Scholarship recipients must submit a completed "Scholarship Acceptance Form" which will be mailed to recipient with letter of scholarship award. This form must be returned to the NILE Foundation office no later than **August 1, 2018**.

Scholarships not accepted by that date will be forfeited.

Application Deadline and Selection Process

1. The original application plus 5 copies are due in the NILE Office no later than **March 1, 2018 at 5pm** (postmarks of March 1st will not be accepted).
2. Final selection of scholarship recipients will be made in early April 2018.

Application

The candidate must submit a properly completed official NILE scholarship application with the following components. Please include 5 copies with original application.

1. Two separate letters of reference from teachers, ministers, employers or other persons well acquainted with, but not related to, the applicant.
2. A certified transcript of grades (current to time of application) from applicant's high school, which includes class rank.
3. One recent head and shoulders photo of the applicant for publication purposes. **Graduation or senior picture is ideal.** (Polaroid, other instant prints, or photos printed on printer paper are not acceptable.) Photo may be color or black and white. Photo must be high quality. Please identify name of applicant on back of photo. Photo will not be returned. One original photo will suffice. You may also email photo to shelby@thenile.org with applicants name in subject line.



Selection of the scholarship recipients is based on NILE participation, academic achievement, community involvement and need. Evaluation of scholarship applications and subsequent ranking of applicants shall be the sole responsibility of a designated NILE committee. Neatness in preparation of the application shall be considered. **Application folders or covers are NOT encouraged.**

Additional Requirements for Recipients of Rolling Scholarships

The NILE Scholarship Committee will select recipients of the Rolling Scholarships from the pool of 2018 applicants. Each year recipients must remain in good standing as outlined in requirements listed below. Recipients must:

- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 to continue in the program
- Be continually enrolled as a full-time student
- Maintain involvement with NILE
- Be actively involved in college or university organizations and activities, preferably related to agriculture

To obtain scholarship award in future years, after 2018-2019, recipients must return the following items to the NILE Foundation office by March 15th of the current year. **Items not received by that date will be forfeited.**

1. Scholarship Renewal Form
2. Current Official Transcript
3. Statement of use of scholarship including how funds were utilized and what impact was made. Please limit to 500 words.
4. Statement of current involvement in NILE.
5. Statement of involvement in activities and organizations while attending college. Please limit to 500 words.

Please contact Shelby Shaw with any questions in regards to scholarship renewals.

Additional Requirements:

- Scholarship recipients selected will be asked to attend the NILE's Stetson and Stiletto event for a presentation. Stetson and Stiletto is NILE's largest scholarship fundraiser on May 11, 2018 in Billings, MT.
- Each recipient will receive a ticket to the event; parents/guest will need to purchase a ticket.
- Sign the Media Release on the back of the application. Unsigned Media Releases will not be considered for a scholarship.



Recipients of these scholarships will be notified in early April 2018. Funds for the scholarship will be handled through the NILE office and will be sent directly to the college or university that the recipient will attend. It is imperative that recipients notify NILE of acceptance by their chosen college or university and meet the requirements specified in the NILE scholarship policies.

Questions should be directed to the NILE office at 406-256-2495. If interested and eligible, complete and return application with 5 photocopies to:

NILE
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 1981
Billings, MT 59103

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CONSIDERATION, WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT, AND MAY NOT BE RESUBMITTED.

NILE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST RECEIVED IN NILE OFFICE
NO LATER THAN March 1, 2018 at 5pm (postmarks of March 1st will not be accepted).