



2019 Scholarship Packet

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Meritus Credit Union scholarship program is to award a one-year scholarship to six students that possess academic potential and a desire to succeed.

ELIGIBILITY:

To be considered for this scholarship, the applicant must:

- be a member (**have their own savings account**) of the credit union in good standing
- be graduating from an accredited high school in the parishes of the credit union's field of membership (Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin, Vermillion)
- be graduating in the spring of 2019 with plans to attend an accredited college, university, or technical school in the fall of 2019
- have maintained a 3.0 GPA based on 7 High School semesters
- have scored 21 or higher on the ACT exam
- complete an application and personal essay

Immediate family members of current Meritus Credit Union Board of Directors, Supervisory Committee Members, and current employees are not eligible for the scholarship.

Membership is extended to anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes. Membership is also available to immediate family members of all current members. Membership is obtained by opening a savings account.

SELECTION:

Scholarship applications will be reviewed by a committee selected by the Board of Directors of Meritus Credit Union. Final selection of the scholarship recipients will be made following formal interviews conducted by the Scholarship Committee. Finalists will be selected among student members who attend school in the parishes of the credit union's field of membership (Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin, and Vermillion). Two finalists will be selected from Lafayette Parish, and one finalist will be selected each from Acadia, Iberia, St. Martin, and Vermillion Parishes.

AWARD:

The Scholarship Committee will award a total of \$12,000 in scholarships. Each of the six recipients will receive a \$2,000 (\$1,000 per semester) 1-year scholarship. Scholarship money can be used for any school-related expenses. A check for half the total scholarship amount will be issued in August for the fall semester. The remaining half will be given in January for the spring semester. Checks will be made payable directly to the recipient when proof of registration for that semester has been provided to the Meritus Credit Union CEO.

Scholarship recipients must complete the fall semester as a full-time student (12 semester hours), maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher that semester, and maintain membership at Meritus Credit Union in good standing, in order to receive the funds.



APPLICATION PACKAGE:

All applicants must submit an application package which includes:

- a completed application form
- a current high school transcript
- a copy of his/her official ACT results
- two letters of recommendation
- a personal essay

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Completed application packages* must be received no later than **February 28, 2019** at:

Scholarship Committee
C/O Meritus Credit Union
ATTN: Marketing Department
515 Guilbeau Rd
Lafayette, LA 70506

*It is the responsibility of the applicant that all information is received by the credit union by the deadline. Incomplete or late application packages will not be considered. All documentation including letters of recommendation must be included in one packet when submitted for consideration.

NOTIFICATION:

Each applicant will be notified by mail whether or not they have been chosen. Recipients are invited to an awards presentation at the Meritus Credit Union Annual Meeting on March 29, 2019.



2019 Scholarship Application

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete the following in its entirety. You may use attachments as necessary.

I. Personal Data

Name _____
 First Middle Last

Address _____
 Street City/State Zip

Age _____ Birthdate _____ US Citizen (circle one) Y N

Phone _____ Email _____

Applicant's account number: (student must have his/her own credit union savings account)

Account # _____

(Parents or Legal Guardian)

Mother: Name _____ Occupation _____

Father: Name _____ Occupation _____

Name of High School _____ Date of Graduation _____

College/University/Vocational/Technical you plan to attend _____

Field of Study _____

II. Essay Requirement

Please attach an essay on the following topics: why you are deserving of this scholarship, your goals for the future and how you plan to achieve those goals. The essay will be disqualified if it is more than 2 pages in length (using a 12-point font and double-spacing).

III. References

Attach letters of recommendation from two persons, one of whom must be one of your senior class teachers.



Recommendation Letter 1:

Name Address Position/Title

Recommendation Letter 2:

Name Address Position/Title

IV. School and Community Activities

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: Please list all school activities, including academic and athletic club memberships. Please use full name of organizations and position held, if applicable.

Organization name and leadership position held (if any)	Type of work/activity	Time commitment per week or month	Dates affiliated

(You may attach an additional sheet if you need more space)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Please list community service including social, church and volunteer experience. Please use full name of organizations and position held, if applicable.

Organization name and leadership position held (if any)	Type of work/activity	Time commitment per week or month	Dates affiliated

(You may attach an additional sheet if you need more space)



V. Honors and Academic Awards

A. Honor Society _____

B. National Achievements _____

C. Scholarship Awards _____

D. Other (describe) _____

I certify that the information in this application and all accompanying documents is true and correct. I also certify that I personally answered all questions and wrote the essays relating to this scholarship application. I understand that if for any reason I discontinue my post-high school studies I must notify Meritus Credit Union within 10 days. I also understand that if I discontinue my studies in the first semester, funds for the second semester will not be issued. I agree that the credit union may use my name and photograph for publicity purposes.

Signature _____ Date _____

**** Completed application, letters of recommendation, official transcript, copy of ACT scores and personal essay must be received at the address below no later than February 28, 2019. ****

**Scholarship Committee
C/O Meritus Credit Union
ATTN: Marketing Department
515 Guilbeau Rd
Lafayette, LA 70506**

**Please direct questions regarding scholarship to:
Chief Administrative Officer, (337) 989-0499, ext. 329**