



First Tee- The Lowcountry Secondary Education Scholarship 2026-2027 Guidelines

Scholarship Information

First Tee - The Lowcountry Secondary Education Scholarship Program provides local (First Tee) participants with the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams and help achieve their educational goals, regardless of financial status, gender or race. First Tee - The Lowcountry provides integrated life skills and youth development curriculum through the game of golf creating learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence, and resilience that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges. First Tee - The Lowcountry is all about “Building Game Changers”. First Tee - The Lowcountry Secondary Education Scholarship is administered through Community Foundation of the Lowcountry and supported by the First Tee - The Lowcountry Secondary Education Scholarship Endowment Fund. *The winner of the 2026-27 Post-Secondary Education Scholarship will receive the Raleigh Peters Memorial Scholarship.*

Eligibility Criteria

- A current or former participant of First Tee - The Lowcountry program who participated in the Life Skills classes and embodies the First Tee’s Nine Core Values.
- High school senior scheduled to graduate from a high school in Beaufort or Jasper County or a current college student.
- Applicant has been accepted and plans to pursue a post-secondary educational opportunity. This might include, 4-year, 2-year, trade schools, community college, etc.
- Applicant must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 of a possible 4.0 on the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale or equivalent on an alternate scale.
- Applicant must show evidence of participation in at least one extra-curricular activity besides golf.
- Applicant must have participated in community service during high school, which can include coaching younger kids at First Tee -The Lowcountry.
- Financial need is a consideration but not required.
- Applicant must provide a resume or CV highlighting academic and extra-curricular activities.

Application Requirements

1. A completed [online scholarship application](#).
2. Typed essay explaining the most valuable lesson learned from being a First Tee – The Lowcountry participant.
3. An official copy of the applicant’s most recent transcript(s) showing grades for at least two years, **uploaded into the online application via 3rd party email from a school counselor or teacher.**
4. A total of 3 letters of recommendation, one each to be completed by the following individuals and uploaded into application via 3rd party:
 - a. High school Guidance Counselor, Teacher or Coach
 - b. Non-family adult
 - c. First Tee - The Lowcountry coach
5. A resume or CV highlighting academic and extra-curricular activities.
6. If financial need is to be considered, include applicants’ Submission Summary from the FAFSA - showing Student Aid Index uploaded into the online application. If FAFSA has not been received, include a note of explanation.
7. Selected finalist may be asked to attend a personal interview with First Tee - The Lowcountry Secondary Education Scholarship Advisory Committee.

Scholarship Type	2 or 4 year Undergraduate/Post-Secondary	How to Apply	Click Here
Award	Up to \$5,000 per year / 4 years	Deadline	February 15, 2026

Selection of Recipients

The Scholarship Advisory Committee shall select recipients (subject to approval by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry Board of Directors). Scholarship funds will be awarded to cover educational costs for: tuition/fees, room and board, and books. Specific costs to be covered will be at the discretion of the Scholarship Advisory Committee. Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, religion, age, or national origin.

Announcement of Scholarship Awards

The Community Foundation of the Lowcountry will send an official award letter and related information to each recipient. A public announcement of scholarship recipients may be arranged by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry. Recipients may be further recognized through Awards Day programs at their schools.

Distribution of Scholarship Funds

The Community Foundation will advise all scholarship recipients of the distribution method of scholarship awards and review the students' responsibilities to the Scholarship Program they have been selected for. These responsibilities may include sending transcripts at the end of the year for renewable scholarships, and providing notification of all address changes or changes in student status or enrollment. In accordance with the Community Foundation's policy, scholarship funds will be paid in the form of a check made payable to the college/school of the scholarship recipient. Checks will be mailed to the college/school. Notification of payment will be sent to the scholarship recipient.