



Senior Scholarships 101

October 7, 2025

Angie Anthony
Director of Scholarships



Housekeeping

- ➡ We are recording this presentation and will post to our website with the slides
- ➡ Closed captioning is available
- ➡ Hold questions for Q & A at the end
 - ➡ Enter questions into the chat at that time

Hillsborough Education Foundation



- ➡ Hillsborough Education Foundation's mission is to ensure every student in Hillsborough County receives an outstanding public education that equips them for a fulfilling future.
- ➡ Non-profit organization
- ➡ Philanthropic partner to Hillsborough County Public Schools raising \$11.2 million in district support during the 2024-2025 school year.

Learning Objectives

- Criteria & eligibility
- Types of scholarships & examples
- Application process
- Award process



2024 – 2025 Awards



- Nearly 400 scholarships
 - \$500 to 4-Year University Florida Prepaid Plans
- Total value =

\$1.12 Million

A faint, light blue background graphic featuring a large pencil pointing to the right, with a grid of squares overlaid on it.

Donors



Who Are They?

Individuals / Families

- Gift in honor of someone
- Memorial
- Endowments

Companies

- Suncoast Credit Union
- Outback Steakhouse

Non-Profit Organizations

- Sorority alumni
- Kiwanis Club of Tampa
- Derek Jeter Turn 2 Foundation
- Gasparilla Krewes

Over 100 Named Scholarships



Eligibility

A faint, light blue background graphic featuring a horizontal ruler with vertical markings and a pencil positioned behind it, pointing to the right. The ruler and pencil are centered horizontally and partially obscured by the word 'Eligibility'.

Eligibility

- Hillsborough county seniors
- Public school
 - Charter
 - Virtual
- Homeschool
- Private school



Eligibility

- ➡ GPA (Unweighted)
 - ➡ Cumulative State GPA
- ➡ Traditional universities, community & technical colleges
- ➡ Major
- ➡ High school
- ➡ Community service & extracurricular activities
- ➡ Financial need and more....



Demonstrating Financial Need

- Household qualifies for **ONE** of the following social assistance programs:
 - Free or Reduced Lunch
 - Medicaid
 - WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)
 - TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
 - SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
 - Housing Assistance
- Documentation only if you qualify for one of the above and a scholarship that requires financial need
- Must upload at the time of application



Demonstrating Financial Need - Tax Form 1040

➡ **Free/Reduced Lunch** is supported by most recent 1040 tax form

maximum annual pre-tax earnings

- ➡ (Line 9 on tax form 1040)
- ➡ 2024 or 2025 Tax Return
- ➡ Student name must be included
- ➡ You can hide the social security numbers


➡ **OR...**

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUAL
1	\$28,953
2	\$39,128
3	\$49,303
4	\$59,478
5	\$69,653
6	\$79,828
7	\$90,003
8*	\$100,178

Demonstrating Financial Need – Direct Certification Letter

- ➡ **Free/Reduced Lunch** can be demonstrated with a Direct Certification Letter
- ➡ Parent/Guardian must request the letter from Hillsborough County Public Schools Student Nutrition Services
- (813)-840-7066
 - HCPSMealBenefits@HCPS.net

➡ **OR....**



October 22, 2024

To the parent or legal guardian of:
STUDENT NAME
Student Address

Dear parent/guardian:

RE: Notice of Direct Certification for Reduced School Meals

The student listed above will **automatically receive reduced-priced school meals** based on his or her eligibility for Medicaid benefits through the Florida Department of Children and Families. The reduced-priced lunch cost of 40¢ is waived, so there is no charge for the school meal. Breakfast is free for all students!

An application does not need to be submitted for your household. However, you may submit an application if you think you may qualify for free meals based on your income.

If there are other children living in your household that attend a Hillsborough County Public School, **they also qualify for reduced-price meals. Please contact the Healthy Meals Express Application Center at 813-840-7066 for any of the following situations:**

- You did not receive a *Notice of Direct Certification for Reduced School Meals* for **every** Hillsborough County Public School student living in your household
- You do not want your child(ren) to have reduced-priced school meals
- You have any additional questions regarding your child(ren)'s school meal benefits

Sincerely,

Demonstrating Financial Need – Screenshot from School Counselor

To demonstrate financial need, school counselors can access this screen from “Student Info” and then clicking on the “Classified” Tab.

Students can obtain a screenshot from their counselors that shows their Free/Reduced Meal Program Eligibility. The screenshot must contain the following elements:

- Free/Reduced Meals Program WITH Option C
- Student Name
- High School Name
- Current School Year

Hillsborough County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life

Student Info

Mia Felix | East Bay High School (1322) | Admin | 2025-2026 | Quarter 1

Demographic | Enrollment | Schedule | Requests | Plan | Grades | Absences | Referrals | Test History | Grad | Communication | SSS | Choice

Filter fields...

Classified

Meal Status	THE STUDENT DID NOT APPLY FOR FREE OR REDUCED PRICE LUNCH.
Florida Student Number	771669154X
Florida Alias	771669154X
Free/Reduced Meals Program	C - The student is enrolled in a USDA - approved Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school and is identified as eligible for free meals based upon the Direct Certification determination or the extension of eligibility to the household due to eligibility of an identified direct certified student.
LUNCH Program	
FLEID Verified	✓
Florida Education Identifier (FLEID)	FL000000822612
Habitual Truant	✗

Learnfare History

No Records Found

Scholarships

Scholarships



- Traditional College / University
- Community College
- Technical College / Trade School
- 1-year
- Multi-year
 - Require annual update
 - Some are conditional
 - GPA minimums
- \$500 to \$20,000
- Florida Prepaid Plans

Scholarships



Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis Scholarship

- Minimum 3.25 UNWEIGHTED GPA
- 75+ community service hours
- 2 additional essays
- Financial need
- Preference for students majoring Education, or Early Childhood - Preschool Education / Development

Scholarships

Braulio & Adelfa Alonso Scholarship

- Alonso High School senior
- Must attend a college or university



Scholarships

Outback Steakhouse Scholarship

- Must have minimum 3.0 UNWEIGHTED GPA
- Must attend a higher education culinary arts program



The Application

Apply!



Application Period

- October 1 through January 31, 2026

2024-25

- 3,581 started application
- 1,867 completed application

Application



- Online platform - AwardSpring
- One general application
 - Filters answers for all scholarships
- 2 required 250-word essays
 - Additional essays based on qualification
- Four sections
 - Student information
 - Postsecondary school & future plans
 - Household & financial information
 - Acknowledgements & authorizations
 - Parent / Guardian or student over 18

Getting to the Application

- ➡ Go to EducationFoundation.com/SeniorScholarships
- ➡ Click on link to **Apply**



AwardSpring - Register



➡ Click on **Register** and use the student's information

➡ Do NOT use HCPS email address



Use student name & email (not parent) when registering. Do NOT use HCPS email; it rejects our communications.

Scholarships

Donors

Sign In

Register

Sign In

Email

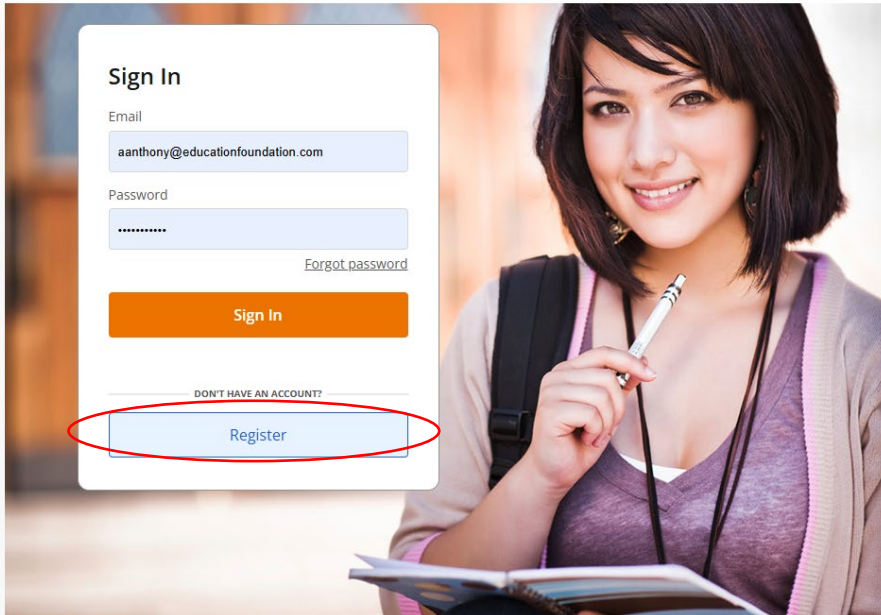
Password

[Forgot password](#)

Sign In

DON'T HAVE AN ACCOUNT?

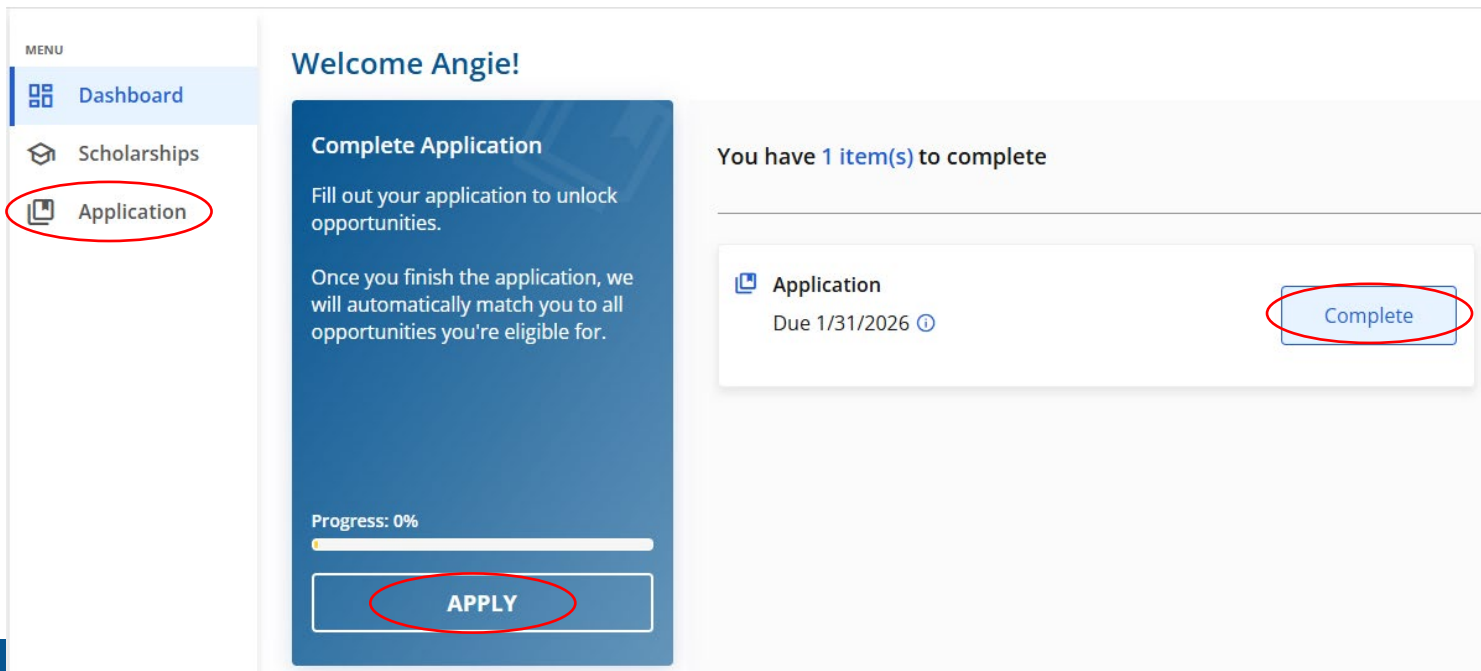
Register



AwardSpring - Dashboard

➡ Lands on the **Dashboard** when you log in

➡ Click on **Application** or **Complete** to begin



The screenshot shows the AwardSpring dashboard interface. On the left is a vertical menu with options: 'Dashboard' (selected), 'Scholarships', and 'Application' (circled in red). The main content area is titled 'Welcome Angie!'. It features a blue card for 'Complete Application' with instructions to fill out the application to unlock opportunities. Below this is a progress bar at 0% and a red-outlined 'APPLY' button. To the right, a section titled 'You have 1 item(s) to complete' contains a card for the 'Application' due 1/31/2026, with a red-outlined 'Complete' button.

MENU

- Dashboard
- Scholarships
- Application**

Welcome Angie!

Complete Application

Fill out your application to unlock opportunities.

Once you finish the application, we will automatically match you to all opportunities you're eligible for.

Progress: 0%

APPLY

You have 1 item(s) to complete

- Application**
Due 1/31/2026 ⓘ **Complete**

AwardSpring - Application



- ➡ Application tabs show sections to be completed and your progress
- ➡ Click **Next Step** to go to the next section
- ➡ Saves as you go

MENU

Dashboard

Scholarships

Donors

Application

Application for Angie Anthony-Student

Student Information

Post-Secondary School & Future Plans

Household & Financial Information

Acknowledgements & Authorizations (Parent / Guardian or Student Over 18 Years of Age)

Hillsborough Education Foundation offers scholarships to Hillsborough County high school seniors or equivalent, graduating in Spring 2026 and who plan to attend college in Summer and Fall sessions of 2026, and/or Spring 2027.

EARLY DEADLINE: November 9, 2025 for *Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Gamma Theta Omega Chapter and The Ivy Enrichment Foundation of Tampa Bay, Inc. 85th Anniversary Scholarship* applications.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: The deadline to complete the application is **January 31, 2026, 11:59 ET**.

To apply, the student must complete this application, **in English**, and be sure to use **Chrome** as your internet browser.

The system will save your responses as entered, but you must click **submit** upon completion of the General Application. You will be able to view your eligibility after the General Application is submitted AND additional work will be required for some awards.

Tips:

Previous Step

Next Step

Submit Application

AwardSpring – Application



- ➡ You do not need to complete everything at the same time
- ➡ Tabs show your progress status



expressive141@yahoo.com ▼

MENU

- Dashboard
- Scholarships
- Application**

Application for Angie Anthony

Student Information

In Progress

Post-Secondary School & Future Plans

Household & Financial Information

Acknowledgements & Authorizations (Parent / Guardian or Student Over 18 Years of Age)

This section of the application is to provide information about your plans for college or trade school.

Please read the questions thoroughly and answer carefully.

If you have any questions, please contact Angie Anthony, Director of Scholarships, at aanthony@educationfoundation.com or 813-574-0273.

Are you dual enrolled in college?

☐ No

AwardSpring – Application

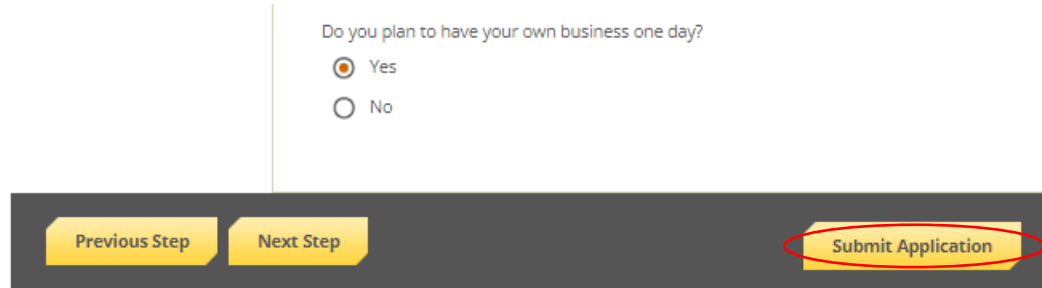
➡ All sections will show status as **completed** when you finish the general application

Application for Angie Anthony

Student Information <i>Completed</i>	<p>Hillsborough Education Foundation offers scholarships to Hillsborough County high school seniors or equivalent, graduating in Spring 2024 and who plan to attend college in Summer and Fall sessions of 2024, and/or Spring 2025.</p> <p>The deadline to complete the application is January 31, 2024, 11:59 ET.</p> <p>To apply, please complete all sections in this application in English and be sure you are using Chrome as your internet browser.</p> <p><u>Some suggestions are:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read questions and options carefully before answering.• Select the most appropriate answer(s) from dropdown fields.• Answer questions thoroughly.• Type essay answers in Word and spellcheck before pasting into the application - <u>GRAMMAR & SPELLING COUNT</u>.• If you don't know an answer, don't guess - ask a
Post-Secondary School & Future Plans <i>Completed</i>	
Household & Financial Information <i>Completed</i>	
Acknowledgements & Authorizations (Parent / Guardian or Student Over 18 Years of Age) <i>Completed</i>	

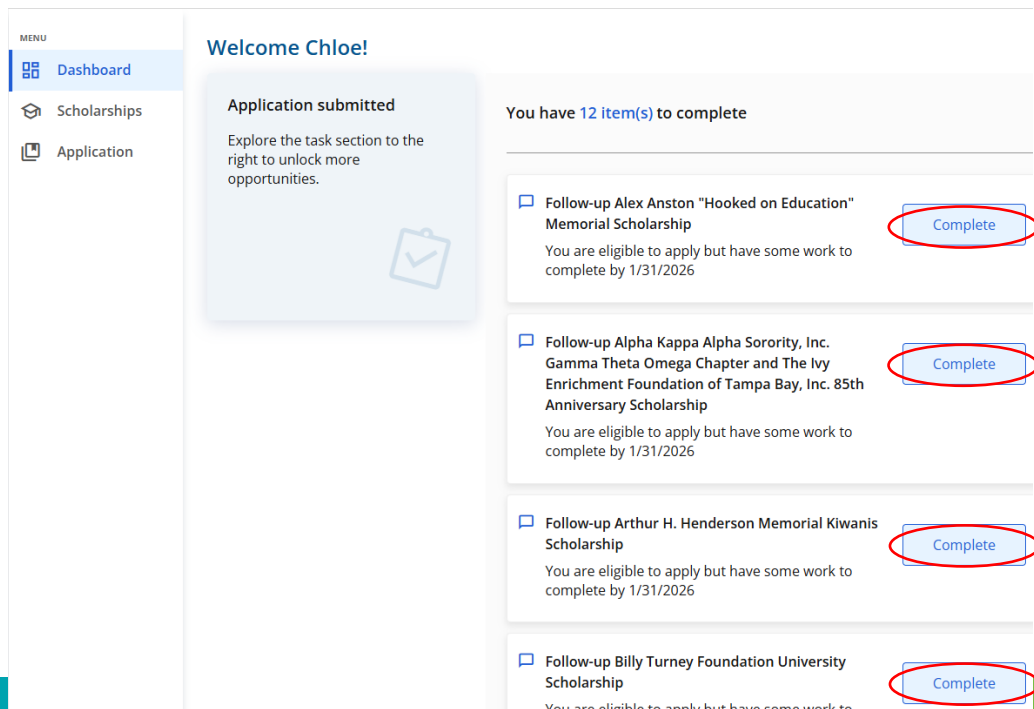
AwardSpring - Application

- ➡ When all sections are completed, the **Submit Application** button will be enabled
- ➡ Click **Submit Application**
- ➡ You can return to make changes after submitting

A screenshot of the AwardSpring application form. The form is displayed on a dark grey background. At the top, there is a question: "Do you plan to have your own business one day?". Below the question are two radio button options: "Yes" (selected) and "No". At the bottom of the form, there are three yellow buttons: "Previous Step", "Next Step", and "Submit Application". The "Submit Application" button is highlighted with a red oval, indicating it is the next step in the process.

AwardSpring – Follow-Ups

- ➡ Lands back on **Dashboard** and shows follow ups for scholarships you qualify for
- ➡ Click on **Complete** to see what you need to do next to complete your application for specific scholarships
 - ➡ Letter of recommendations
 - ➡ Additional essays
 - ➡ Upload financial need documentation



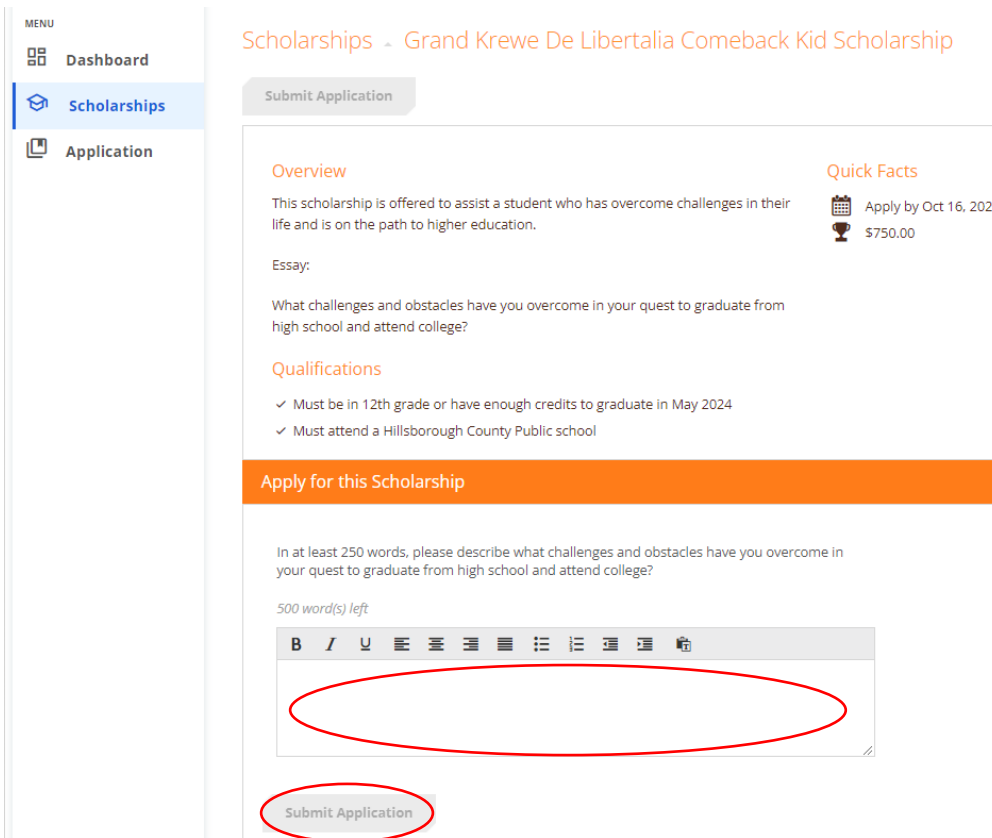
The screenshot shows the AwardSpring dashboard for a user named Chloe. On the left is a 'MENU' with three items: 'Dashboard' (selected), 'Scholarships', and 'Application'. The main content area has a 'Welcome Chloe!' message and a 'Application submitted' notification. Below this, it states 'You have 12 item(s) to complete'. A list of four scholarship follow-up items is shown, each with a 'Complete' button circled in red:

- Follow-up Alex Anston "Hooked on Education" Memorial Scholarship**
You are eligible to apply but have some work to complete by 1/31/2026
- Follow-up Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Gamma Theta Omega Chapter and The Ivy Enrichment Foundation of Tampa Bay, Inc. 85th Anniversary Scholarship**
You are eligible to apply but have some work to complete by 1/31/2026
- Follow-up Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis Scholarship**
You are eligible to apply but have some work to complete by 1/31/2026
- Follow-up Billy Turney Foundation University Scholarship**
You are eligible to apply but have some work to complete by 1/31/2026

AwardSpring – Follow Ups

➡ Complete the additional information and click **Submit Application**

➡ You will need to do this for each scholarship that requires additional work



The screenshot shows the AwardSpring interface. On the left is a vertical menu with 'Dashboard', 'Scholarships' (highlighted), and 'Application'. The main content area is titled 'Scholarships - Grand Krewe De Libertalia Comeback Kid Scholarship'. Below the title is a 'Submit Application' button. The page is divided into two columns. The left column contains an 'Overview' section with a description of the scholarship, an 'Essay' prompt, and 'Qualifications'. The right column contains a 'Quick Facts' section with a calendar icon and the deadline 'Apply by Oct 16, 2023' and a trophy icon with the amount '\$750.00'. Below these sections is an orange bar that says 'Apply for this Scholarship'. Under this bar is a text area for the essay prompt: 'In at least 250 words, please describe what challenges and obstacles have you overcome in your quest to graduate from high school and attend college?'. Below the text area is a word count '500 word(s) left' and a rich text editor toolbar. The text area and the 'Submit Application' button at the bottom are circled in red.

MENU

- Dashboard
- Scholarships
- Application

Scholarships - Grand Krewe De Libertalia Comeback Kid Scholarship

Submit Application

Overview

This scholarship is offered to assist a student who has overcome challenges in their life and is on the path to higher education.

Essay:

What challenges and obstacles have you overcome in your quest to graduate from high school and attend college?

Qualifications

- ✓ Must be in 12th grade or have enough credits to graduate in May 2024
- ✓ Must attend a Hillsborough County Public school

Quick Facts

Apply by Oct 16, 2023

\$750.00

Apply for this Scholarship

In at least 250 words, please describe what challenges and obstacles have you overcome in your quest to graduate from high school and attend college?

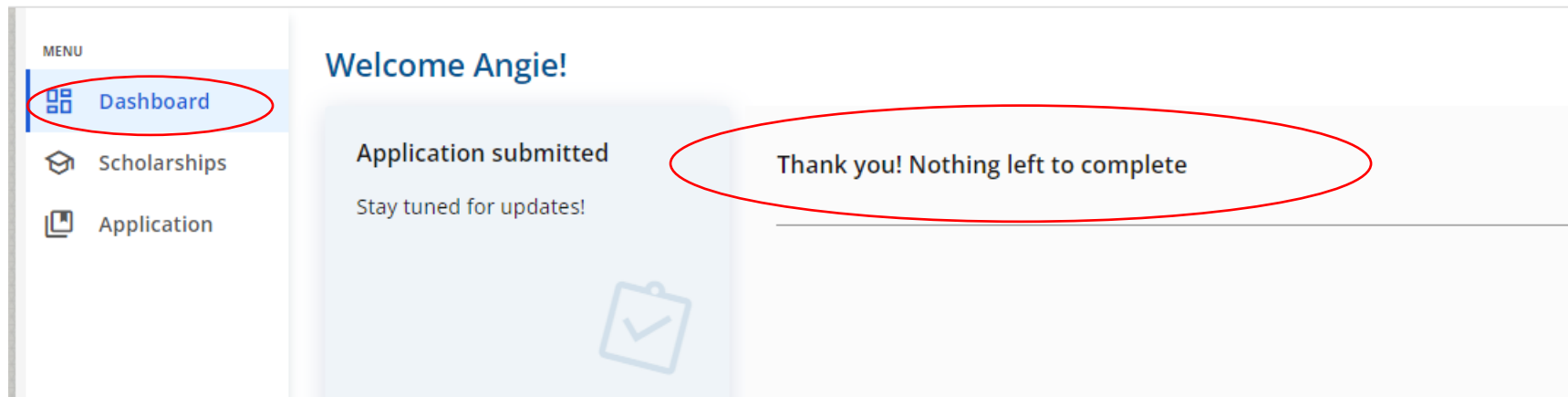
500 word(s) left

B / **I** **U** **Text** **Bulleted** **Numbered** **Link** **Unlink** **Image**

Submit Application

AwardSpring – Complete

- ➡ **Dashboard** indicates when all additional items are completed
- ➡ Click on **Scholarships** to see a list



The screenshot shows the AwardSpring user interface. On the left is a vertical menu with the heading 'MENU'. It contains three items: 'Dashboard' (with a grid icon), 'Scholarships' (with a graduation cap icon), and 'Application' (with a document icon). The 'Dashboard' item is circled in red. The main content area has a header 'Welcome Angie!'. Below this, there is a light blue box on the left with the text 'Application submitted' and 'Stay tuned for updates!', accompanied by a clipboard icon with a checkmark. To the right of this box, the text 'Thank you! Nothing left to complete' is displayed and circled in red.

AwardSpring - Status



Statuses

- ➡ Applied
- ➡ Not Qualified
- ➡ Complete Follow-up

MENU



Dashboard



Scholarships



Donors



Application

Scholarships

Filter ▼

Scholarship Name ▾	Award ▾	Deadline ▾	Status
Adelaide Gonzalez Few Memorial Phi B... This scholarship is for a high school seniors with ...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Not Qualified
Adelle R. Harris Memorial Scholarship This scholarship is for a high school seniors with ...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Not Qualified
Alex Anston "Hooked on Education" Me... This scholarship is for high school seniors with a ...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Complete Follow-Up
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Gamm... IMPORTANT: This scholarship closes on Novembe...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Complete Follow-Up
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Gamm... IMPORTANT: This scholarship closes on Novembe...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Not Qualified
Andrew Lubrano Scholarship This scholarship is for high school seniors with a ...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Applied
Aparicio-Levy Technical College Scholar... This scholarship is for high school seniors who ha...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Not Qualified
Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis... This scholarship is for high school seniors with a ...	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Complete Follow-Up
Bay Area Manufacturers Association Sc... This scholarship is for high school seniors with fin	N/A	Due Jan 31, 2026	Not Qualified

Reviews

The background of the slide is a solid dark blue. Overlaid on this background is a faint, lighter blue graphic. It consists of a grid of squares and rectangles, with a large, prominent arrow pointing to the right that spans the width of the slide, passing behind the word 'Reviews'.

Reviews

- Donors
- 3 independent volunteer reviewers
- Conflict of interest
- Not included
 - Student name & contact information
 - Financial need
 - Race / ethnicity
 - Gender



Review Categories



- Unweighted GPA
- Extracurricular activities & leadership
- Community service hours
- Content of essays
 - Grammar & spelling count
- Employment hours



Awards

Awards



Status

- ➡ Applied
- ➡ Not Applied
- ➡ Not Qualified
- ➡ Awarded
- ➡ Denied



Award amounts will display

Scholarships			
Filter ▼			
Scholarship Name	Award	Deadline	Status
Adelle R. Harris Memorial Scholarship This scholarship is for a high school seniors with a mini...	N/A	Due Oct 21, 2023	Not Qualified
Alex Anston "Hooked on Education" Memor... This scholarship is for high school seniors with a minim...	N/A	Due Oct 21, 2023	Not Qualified
Andrew Lubrano Scholarship This scholarship is for high school seniors with a minim...	N/A	Due Oct 21, 2023	Not Qualified
Aparicio-Levy Technical College Scholarship This scholarship is for high school seniors who have a ...	N/A	Due Oct 21, 2023	Not Qualified
Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis Sch... This scholarship is for high school seniors with a minim...	\$2,500.00	Due Oct 21, 2023	Awarded
AVID Hawks Scholarship This scholarship is for an Armwood High School senior ...	N/A	Due Oct 21, 2023	Not Qualified

Awards

- ➡ Mid-April
 - ➡ Email from Angie Anthony / AwardSpring
 - ➡ Check your dashboard
- ➡ Claiming Funds
 - ➡ Enrollment Verification Form– college
 - ➡ Information Release Form
 - Social media, press releases, etc. - no obligation
 - ➡ Thank you letter for donor
- ➡ Check is sent directly to the school
- ➡ Tuition, books, fees, housing & meal plans
- ➡ **Claim funds by February 28, 2027**



Dear Angie,

Congratulations!

Hillsborough Education Foundation is pleased to inform you that you are the recipient of the Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.00.

We will be verifying your GPA with the Hillsborough County Public School District and will send an Award Packet to you through regular mail at the beginning of June which will outline the next steps for you to claim your funds.

Please contact me at aanthony@educationfoundation.com or 813-574-0273 if you have any questions in the meantime and again, congratulations!

Angie Anthony
Director of Scholarships

Helpful Hints

Helpful Hints

- ⇒ Read instructions and questions thoroughly
 - ⇒ Unweighted GPA (Cumulative State GPA)
- ⇒ Review answer choices carefully
- ⇒ Select all extracurricular activities that apply
- ⇒ Answer the essay questions & **follow ups**
 - ⇒ Stay on topic
 - ⇒ Word count
 - ⇒ High scoring points
- ⇒ Spelling and grammar count
 - ⇒ Scoring points
 - ⇒ Spell & grammar check in word, then copy/paste

Don't wait till
the last
minute!

Don't forget to
hit Submit
Application!

Important Dates



October 1, 2025
Application opens



January 31, 2026
Application closes



Mid-April – May 2026
Notifications

Expressing Gratitude

"Because of you I get to pursue a college education, a dream, and a future."

*"You are not only making our dreams a reality,
but you are also sowing the seeds of hope in the hearts of our families,
who sacrificed their lives to bring us into this country."*

*"I look forward to being able to give back to the community once I begin to
understand how my career plays an important role toward a diverse society."*

*"Saying thank you a million times wouldn't fully capture how appreciative
I am for all your support. But once more, thank you so much
for all of your help in making my dreams come true."*

Questions

Angie Anthony

Director of Scholarships

813-574-0273

aanthony@educationfoundation.com