

DCU (Digital Federal Credit Union) recognizes the lifetime value of a college education. The Annual Scholarship Program for **DCU Employees' Children** is designed to assist outstanding students with the cost of this education in recognition of their hard work and their interest in pursuing higher education. In **2026**, DCU will award **one \$2,500 scholarship** to the **child of a DCU employee** who is **a graduating high school senior OR a student currently enrolled in a state or nationally accredited two or four-year college or university**. An impartial panel of business professionals and collegiate educators will judge the participants' entries.

DCU employees' children **may reapply throughout their college tenure** provided they were not awarded the scholarship previously. The application portal will open on **Friday, December 12, 2025**, for the 2026 academic year.

Instructions

Read the Official Rules below - then visit the secure scholarship portal to create a login and submit an application at https://webportalapp.com/sp/dcu_2026. Applications and all supporting materials including transcripts and letters of recommendation must be received through the scholarship portal by **3pm (ET) on Friday, March 6, 2026**. No exceptions.

Official Rules

- Judging Criteria** – The winning student will be the one judged most likely to excel in college as determined by an impartial panel of college level instructors and/or admissions officers. Judgments are based on the following factors:
 - An **unofficial transcript** of your high school grades for senior year (to date) and junior year (full year), **OR** if presently attending a college or university, a transcript of your grades to date. If less than one year, a transcript of your high school grades for senior year. Please upload transcripts into one .pdf file for upload.
 - Academic merit
 - References from **two junior or senior class** teachers, or references from **two college/university professors**
 - An essay judged on the quality of writing and the reasoning used
 - Awards and recognition
 - Extracurricular and community service activities
- Entry Qualifications** – To enter, the student must...
 - Be a graduating high school senior or enrolled in an accredited college/university.
 - Be planning to attend **OR** currently enrolled in a state-accredited or nationally accredited two or four-year college or university (**graduate programs excluded**).
 - **Student must have their own DCU membership AND be a member in good standing.**
 - A scholarship winner may win only once; however, a scholarship applicant may reapply if not selected.
 - DCU employees, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews are ineligible.
 - Sons and daughters of employees at a Vice President (VP level) and above are **not** eligible to win.
- The Essay** – The essay should answer the following essay prompt and be no more than 300 words in length (the essay will appear as a question within the application):

“DCU strives to improve the quality of life for children in need. In our efforts to accomplish this mission we embrace three overall principles: People Come First; Do the Right Thing; & Make a Difference.

Describe how you might apply these similar principles to your life now and how you would intend to incorporate these principles as a part of your education and career path. How would this vision impact both your personal and professional relationships?”
- Schedule** – Applications and all supporting materials, including transcripts and letters of recommendation, must be received through the scholarship portal by **3pm (ET) on Friday, March 6, 2026**. Applications and materials received after the deadline date and time will not be reviewed. Winners will be notified by email in **late April 2026**. **NO** emails will be accepted with documents.
- Publicity** – By entering, the winner agrees to have their name published in DCU newsletters, signs, website, and news releases announcing the results at DCU's discretion.