

2026 U.S. EAGLE SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Community Impact

\$5,000 Scholarship | Applications Due April 5, 2026

About This Scholarship

This scholarship recognizes students who strengthen their communities through service, advocacy, and efforts that make life better for those around them.

For this category, students are invited to imagine bold, meaningful, and achievable ideas that promote financial well being in their local communities. Whether it involves teaching financial skills, using technology to remove barriers, helping families save more effectively, or building partnerships that support neighborhoods, your idea can spark real and lasting change.

Examples of What Your Proposal Can Explore

Your project may focus on any creative or community centered idea related to financial well being, including:

- **Technology:** apps, digital tools, or platforms that improve financial understanding or access.
- **Financial education:** workshops, school programs, peer to peer teaching, or social media campaigns.
- **Volunteer or community projects:** youth led efforts that support saving, budgeting, or financial confidence.
- **Innovative savings strategies:** creative ways to encourage young people to save or invest.
- **Community partnerships:** collaborating with nonprofits, schools, libraries, or small businesses.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Your application must include:

- A written proposal (500–750 words) explaining your idea
- Why this idea matters to you and your community
- How young people would participate or benefit
- The potential impact your project could have

Bonus: Sketches, mockups, videos, or visual aids that help explain your concept.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Your proposal will be evaluated on:

1. Creativity & Innovation
 - Presents a fresh, original concept
 - Uses creative thinking to address financial well being challenges
 - Shows imagination while staying connected to real community needs
2. Community Impact
 - Identifies who will benefit from your idea
 - Demonstrates strong potential to improve financial well being
 - Addresses real barriers or opportunities
 - Shows meaningful, lasting impact
3. Feasibility & Clarity
 - Realistic and achievable for a student led project
 - Clear, well organized, and logically presented
 - Includes practical steps for implementation
4. Alignment with Credit Union Values
 - Reflects the mission of “people helping people”
 - Emphasizes cooperation, accessibility, and empowerment
 - Promotes ethical, inclusive financial practices
5. Personal Connection & Leadership
 - Shows your motivation and lived experience
 - Demonstrates initiative, passion, and thoughtful planning
 - Reflects how you would help bring the idea to life

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Verify everything is completed to ensure your application is accepted.

- Prepare a written proposal that meets all submission requirements.
- Create optional visual aids (sketches, video, designs, etc.).
- Complete online application form.
- Be a U.S. Eagle member (or be related to a member).

Apply online at useagle.org or scan the code



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