

2026 U.S. EAGLE SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Creativity and Innovation

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

About This Scholarship

This scholarship recognizes students who use creativity and problem solving to bring fresh ideas, positive change, and meaningful impact to their communities.

For this category, students will imagine a better world in 2036 and express their vision through a creative medium of their choice—writing, artwork, video, design, music, poetry, or mixed media. Your submission should illustrate a positive change you hope to see and how it could shape people’s lives.

Examples of What Your Submission Can Explore

Your idea may focus on any uplifting or future minded concept, including:

- **Technology:** tools or inventions that make life easier, safer, or more connected.
- **Mental health & well-being:** ideas that support emotional wellness.
- **Environmental solutions:** sustainability, conservation, clean energy.
- **Education:** more inclusive, engaging, or equitable learning experiences.
- **Social issues:** community building, equity, belonging, fairness.
- Or any other vision that reflects your creativity and imagination.

This is your opportunity to share your artistic voice, optimism, and vision for change.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Choose **one** of the following creative formats:

- Essay or written piece (500–750 words)
- Visual artwork (drawing, painting, digital art, photography, mixed media)
- Short video (1–3 minutes)
- Design concept (poster, illustration, mockup, or prototype)

All submissions must also include an Artist/Author statement of 150-200 words explaining the future you imagine, why it matters to you, and the message or emotion behind your creative work.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Your submission will be evaluated on:

1. Creativity & Originality
 - Unique thinking and imaginative concepts
 - Fresh artistic or narrative approach
 - Ideas that go beyond traditional solutions
2. Vision for a Better Future
 - Clear description of a positive change in the world by 2036
 - Insight into how this change benefits others
 - A thoughtful, hopeful, inspiring outlook
3. Expression & Craftsmanship
 - Strong execution in your chosen medium
 - Clear storytelling, composition, technique, or delivery
 - Ability to communicate meaning or emotion effectively
4. Feasibility or Conceptual Depth
 - Realistic or thoughtfully developed idea
 - Understanding of the issue being explored
 - Strong reasoning behind your envisioned future
5. Personal Connection & Voice
 - Statement shows motivation, authenticity, and reflection
 - Work expresses your values or lived experiences
 - Clear personal perspective

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Verify everything is completed to ensure your application is accepted.

- Prepare your piece that meets all submission requirements.
- Write your 150-200 word Artist/Author Statement.
- 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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