



ANNUAL Scholarship Program

St. Michael Parish Church's 2026 Annual Scholarship Program Summary

What is the difference between College Grants and Scholarships? The terms “scholarship” and “grant” are often used interchangeably, however, there are differences between these two forms of student aid. ***Most scholarships are merit based.*** This means that they are awarded to applicants/students with certain qualities. ***Most grants are need based.*** This means that they are usually awarded based on the applicant's and his/her family's financial situation.

Qualifying Recipients: This scholarship is available to any St. Michael Church parish member that needs financial assistance to continue their education beyond the high school level. Applicants are ranked based on these qualifying factors:

1. Applicants must be Catholics in good standing, who have attended St. Michael's Church for at least one year.
2. Applicants that are graduating from high school and continuing education at a college, university or a trade school will receive *first priority* for the scholarship award.
3. Applicants that are between the ages of 18-24, that are currently enrolled in a college, university or a trade school and need financial assistance to continue with their education will be considered in a *second priority* for the scholarship award.
4. Applicants that did not attend a college, university or trade school after high school, or never completed their undergraduate or graduate studies, but are now pursuing advanced education and have and still attend Mass on a frequent basis will be considered in a *third priority* for the scholarship award.

The parish's Annual Scholarship Program Policy and Procedures and application are posted and available on our parish's website, under the tab entitled, “*Parish Life and Ministries*”.

Payment of Scholarship:

The St. Michael Catholic Church will disburse funds from the restricted Scholarship Funds account directly to the educational institution that is based on the applicant's application form. The direct distribution of Scholarship Funds to approved applicants is explicitly prohibited by law.

Applicants are asked to please return this application form and your essay by **July 24, 2026** to the Church's Main Office (in Halloran Hall, second floor) or mail it to: St. Michael Church, P.O. Box 199, Calhan, CO 80808. Award recipients will be announced between **August 1 to 15, 2026**.