

The Program

SIU Credit Union awards annual scholarships to help members throughout southern Illinois continue their education. A college education is one of the most important investments a person can make and SIU Credit Union is dedicated to helping its members with that investment.

Ten (10) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded for the 2026-27 academic year. Scholarship recipients will be notified in May 2026 and will be announced to the rest of the Credit Union membership in a future publication. A check will be made payable to the recipient. The check will be presented to the recipients during a May presentation at the Corporate Office (1175 E Main St, Carbondale) of SIU Credit Union.

Eligibility

1. Applicant or the applicant's legal guardian must be a SIU Credit Union member in good standing and maintain that membership status throughout the duration of the award to apply for the scholarship. A member in good standing is defined as one with a minimum balance of \$5 in his or her account and no loan delinquencies. Membership is open to any of the following individuals:
 - Anyone who lives or works in the following Illinois counties: Alexander, Clinton, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Marion, Massac, Monroe, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Saline, Union, Wabash, Washington, Wayne, White, or Williamson.
 - Immediate family members of existing members (parents, spouse, children, siblings, grandchildren, or grandparents).
 - Anyone who works or belongs to one of our select employer groups (SEGs) or eligible associations. See our website for a full listing.
2. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior enrolling into a two or four year college; community college student transferring into a four-year university; or adult student returning to college.
3. Applicant must fully complete the Scholarship Application and return it to SIU Credit Union with all appropriate support material by the **March 31, 2026** deadline for the application to be considered by the committee.
4. SIU Credit Union employees, committee members, board members and their immediate family members are not eligible.

How to Apply

1. Read all instructions completely and thoroughly.
2. Fill out the application and submit the following supporting documents.
(Documents must be unstapled and typed or legibly written):
 - An official copy of your most recent school transcript including your GPA and ACT or SAT scores (if applicable).
 - A letter of recommendation prepared by a school official who is close to the applicant through class work or extracurricular activities *OR* by an employer/supervisor of the applicant from a job or community activity.
 - A one-page essay that answers the essay question found in the following application.
3. Submit the completed and unstapled application and documents to any SIU Credit Union branch or mail to:
SIU Credit Union
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 2888
Carbondale, IL 62902

Your Application Will Not Be Considered If It Is:

- Late – Application and supporting documents must be postmarked by **March 31, 2026**
- Incomplete – Applications must be completely filled out and sent with ALL supporting documents; incomplete applications will be filed with no action taken.
- Unqualified – Applicants must meet ALL of the eligibility requirements (see above).

Questions?

For more information, please contact marketing@siucu.org or visit our website at www.siucu.org.

SIU Credit Union
2026 Scholarship Application



General Information

Name First _____ M.I. _____ Last _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Applicant's SIUCU Account Number (*Applicant or the applicant's legal guardian must be a SIU Credit Union member in good standing*)

Current School Enrollment

Applicants must include their most recent official high school or college transcript.

Current School _____ Anticipated Graduation Date _____

GPA _____ ACT score (*if applicable*) _____ SAT score (*if applicable*) _____

Current level of education:

High School Senior College Freshman College Sophomore College Junior College Senior Graduate Student

Educational Plans

Name of College You Plan to Attend _____

Proposed Field of Study _____

Please indicate type of full-time enrollment:

Entire academic year (2026-27) Fall 2026 semester only Spring 2027 semester only Other _____

What is your ideal job once you complete your education? Why?

Activities | School, Work, or Community

Include a letter of recommendation with your application that has been prepared by a school official who is close to you through class work or extracurricular activities *OR* by an employer/supervisor from a job or community activity.

In the chart below, please list any important school, job, or community activities with which you were involved. In the contributions column, include your level of participation and any leadership roles; or offer an explanation for lack of participation in activities. Please only list your top 7 activities.

	Activity Name	Dates of Service	Contributions
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

Which of these activities were most important to you? Explain why:

SIU Credit Union 2026 Scholarship Application



Financial Need

While scholarships are not awarded solely based on financial need, it is a factor that the scholarship committee will consider. Please indicate the amount of funds that you have already secured (i.e. college savings account, family contributions, and other scholarships):

\$ _____

Please indicate if you have any special circumstances.

Essay Question

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following question in an essay with a maximum length of one page. Your essay must be typed or legibly written to be considered. Include your name at the top of the sheet.

Please research the Seven Cooperative Principles of Credit Unions. The SIU Credit Union Scholarship Program is funded by credit union members who believe in these principles.

How are you going to give back to your community, in the spirit of these principles, as a result of your college education?

Additional inquiry (Optional): What do you consider to be the most important services offered by a credit union, and why?

Certification

I certify that all information provided on this application and all supporting documents are accurate and complete. I understand that any misleading or false information will result in my application being disqualified. If selected as a scholarship winner, I give full consent for the use of my name and likeness to be used for promotional and publicity purposes. I understand that the decision of the SIU Credit Union Scholarship Committee is final.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature (if applicant is under age 18)

Date

How did you hear about the SIU Credit Union Scholarship Program? (select one)

<input type="checkbox"/> School	<input type="checkbox"/> SIUCU Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> SIUCU Branch
<input type="checkbox"/> SIUCU Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Internal Use Only

Eligible Application Transcript Letter Essay Date _____ Number _____