

The Westerly College Club, Inc. 2021-2022 Scholarship Application

The Westerly College Club was founded in 1910 to promote fellowship among women in the Westerly area with a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, to contribute to cultural and civic life of the community, and to award scholarships to applicants who meet criteria established by its members.

The WCC first offered a Latin prize of fifty dollars. In 1944, a permanent scholarship was established. Today, scholarships are funded from the Lois Hamilton Fontaine Scholarship Fund of the Westerly College Club, Inc., managed by the Rhode Island Foundation. The fund, supported by WCC member donations, fundraising efforts, and donations from outside sources, is dedicated to Mrs. Fontaine, a former teacher of Latin and an outstanding leader of the Club.

I. Eligibility Requirements:

1. Applicants must be residents of Charlestown, Hopkinton, Richmond, or Westerly, RI, or the Connecticut border towns of Stonington or North Stonington.
2. Applicants must be applying for a scholarship to fund a Bachelor degree from a four-year accredited institution. Scholarships are not eligible for an Associate degree or Graduate degree.
3. Applicants must have completed at least one full year of college. Awards are granted for sophomore, junior, or senior year, for 1 year only, and are not renewable. Applicants must re-apply yearly.

II. Application Requirements

A. Application

_____ Completed **application** form with a resume if you have one. It is expected that all information requested on the application be provided. (Adobe or Foxit readers are recommended to fill out form.)

B. Supporting Materials

The following supporting materials **MUST** be submitted along with a completed application form. If the application does not include the following 6 items, the application will not be considered.

_____ 1. A **typed essay** of 300-500 words, describing the applicant's background, academic pursuits, and career goals specifying any unusual personal or financial circumstances that may warrant special attention by the Scholarship Committee.

_____ 2. A complete copy of the applicant's **2021-2022 Student Aid Report** (SAR) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and/or from the College Board's CSS/Financial Aid Profile, which also must include the "expected family contribution" (EFC).

_____ 3. A copy of the applicant's **most current financial aid award** letter from the college or university the applicant is attending. If unable to provide this letter at the time the application is submitted, a letter from the institution specifying when the financial information will be available to the Club must be included.

_____ 4. A copy of the applicant's most recent (**Spring 2021**) **college or university billing statement** for tuition, fees, room and board (as applicable).

____ 5. The **most recent official college transcript(s)**. If unable to obtain a Spring 2021 transcript, a Fall 2020 transcript will be accepted with the application pending final receipt of the Spring transcript. If late, please forward as soon as you receive it.

____ 6. A **current letter of recommendation** from someone other than a family member or friend. A minimum of 1 will be required. If you are a returning applicant, please submit a new/different letter of recommendation.

C. Deadline

The application package comprising the completed application form and supporting materials must be emailed to: collegeclubwesterly@gmail.com. Please put “**Scholarship Application**” in the subject line. All documentation must be received by May 31, 2021.

Please make every effort to send all documentation in one email. If some document(s) cannot be sent electronically it should be mailed to: Westerly College Club, P.O. Box 1342, Westerly, RI 02891 Attn: Scholarship Committee. Deadline is also May 31, 2021.

Any application package that is late or missing any materials (except for a copy of the official Spring 2021 transcript if delayed) will not be considered for the 2021–2022 year.

III. Selection Criteria

In choosing finalists from the applicant pool, the Scholarship Committee considers the following, in no particular order:

- Financial need
- Academic achievement and scholastic potential
- Commitment to career goals
- Personal qualities

IV. Interviews

Each finalist will be scheduled for a required interview. The interviews will be scheduled during a 2-week period beginning approximately Monday, June 7, 2021. At the present time, we expect that all interviews will be held virtually using Zoom or Facetime. Each interview will last about 30 minutes.

Applicants will be expected to discuss costs and funding and how costs and any gaps in funding were met in 2020-2021. Applicants should have knowledge of sources of funds such as: family contributions, loans taken (whether parent personal or student), grants, work study, other scholarships, as well as their own contributions.

All eligible applicants will be contacted during the first 2 weeks of June by a member of the Scholarship Committee to schedule a time slot on an interview day. Please look for an **email** from the Committee during that time period with “**Scholarship Interview**” in the subject line.

After conducting all interviews, the Scholarship Committee will select the scholarship recipients and notify all applicants by early July. The decision of the Scholarship Committee is final.

Other sources of funding available:

Grants for College (risla.org)

Rhode Island Student Grants (collegegrants.org)

Rhode Island Scholarships (rischolarships.org)

Rhode Island Foundation (rifoundation.org)

College Scholarships.org (collegescholarships.org)

Community 2000 (community2000.org)

Eastern CT Community Foundation (cfect.org)

Stonington Community Ctr. (thecommo.org)

If you have any questions, please email: collegeclubwesterly@gmail.com