



2026 Traditional Scholarship Rules

Butler Rural Electric Cooperative’s scholarships encourage the youth in our community to further their education. The cooperative awards the scholarships below to high school seniors attending four-year colleges after graduation. Applicants must have a weighted GPA of 3.5 or higher and must be involved in school and community activities. The top applicants will participate in interviews with judges and will receive a scholarship from Butler Rural Electric Cooperative.

Scholarship applicants must be high school seniors, be the child or legal ward of a Butler Rural Electric Cooperative member, and must live in a home receiving electric service from the cooperative. The application deadline is February 13, 2026. Applications must be submitted online by 4:30 p.m.

2026 Traditional Scholarship Amounts

Michael L. Sims Scholarship Recipient will compete for up to \$4,600 in additional scholarships from Ohio’s Electric Cooperatives	\$2,500 each year throughout college career for up to four years
Thomas Humbach Scholarship	\$3,000
R. Fred Woodruff Scholarship	\$3,000
\$2,000 scholarship	\$2,000
\$1,000 scholarships	\$1,000 each

Michael L. Sims Scholarship

The top-scoring scholarship recipient will receive the Michael L. Sims Scholarship, which awards \$2,500 to the recipient each year throughout their college career for up to four years. The recipient must maintain a weighted 3.5 GPA throughout their college career to continue receiving this scholarship. If the recipient’s weighted GPA falls below 3.5, the recipient will forfeit the scholarship. The student will not be eligible to receive the scholarship in subsequent years once they forfeit the scholarship. The recipient will not receive the scholarship for more than four years.

Rules and regulations

The following provisions will govern the acceptance of applications for Butler Rural Electric Cooperative’s scholarships.

1. Applicants must be the child or legal ward of a Butler Rural Electric Cooperative residential member living in a residence receiving electricity from Butler Rural Electric Cooperative.

The address on the applicant's official school transcript will determine if the applicant lives in a home served by the cooperative. Grandchildren and other relatives of cooperative members are not eligible unless the applicant is the legal ward of the member.

2. Children and legal wards of Butler Rural Electric Cooperative's commercial members are not eligible unless their parents or guardians are also residential members.
3. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors who have all basic credits for college or proper vocational or technical school entrance. A proper vocational or technical school is a post-secondary institution where credits can transfer to a state-accredited four-year college. College students and students who are beginning their college career but are not high school seniors are not eligible.
4. Applicants must have a weighted grade point average of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale or equivalent standing on a nontraditional scale.
5. Applicants cannot be immediate family members of, or reside with, people who are employed by an electric cooperative in Ohio. This includes employees, board members, managers, and affiliated organizations such as Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, Buckeye Power, RESCO, and Cardinal Operating Company. Immediate family members include children, stepchildren, grandchildren, and step grandchildren.
6. Applications and all accompanying materials like official transcripts must be submitted to Butler Rural Electric Cooperative by 4:30 p.m. Friday, February 13, 2026. The cooperative will not extend the scholarship deadline for any reason, including school closings and delays due to weather.
7. Transcripts and one essay must accompany the scholarship application at the time the application is submitted. The application will not be accepted if these are not submitted at the same time.
8. Application information must be confined to the official application. The only attachments permitted are transcripts and essays. If other attachments like resumes, additional pages, and letters of recommendation are included, the application will not be accepted.
9. Applicants who have received full ride scholarships, including tuition, room, board, and books are not eligible for scholarships from Butler Rural Electric Cooperative. Students who receive a scholarship from Butler Rural Electric Cooperative and/or Ohio's Electric Cooperatives and subsequently receive a full ride scholarship must contact Butler Rural Electric Cooperative and Ohio's Electric Cooperatives to forfeit the scholarship.
10. The top applicants will be selected based on weighted GPA and community involvement and will participate in interviews with judges. Applications and interviews will be reviewed based on scholastic record, personal achievement, and school and community activities.
11. Applicant must be available to interview in-person at Butler Rural Electric Cooperative's office at 3888 Stillwell Beckett Road in Oxford Tuesday, March 3. Virtual interviews are not permitted.
12. Finalists are not permitted to bring outside materials, like resumes or handouts, to

interviews.

13. Scholarship recipients must provide proof of enrollment in an accredited college to claim their scholarship.
14. Recipients must accept their scholarship in the first academic year. The cooperative may grant an extension of one year for just cause in the judgment of Butler Rural Electric Cooperative and/or Ohio's Electric Cooperatives. In the event a recipient is unable to fulfill their enrollment obligation, the student will forfeit the scholarship.

Questions?

Contact Andy Denny at andyd@butlerrural.coop or 513-867-4409.

How to submit applications

To apply, please go to butlerrural.coop > Community > Scholarships.

Application deadline: Friday, February 13, 2026, by 4:30 p.m.

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