

Donald K. Rhine
2027 Scholarship Program

About the Donald K. Rhine Scholarship Program

The Donald K. Rhine Scholarship program was started in 1998 to honor the legacy of Reliant Credit Union's founder, Donald K. Rhine. Each year through this program, Reliant awards several college scholarships valued up to $3,000 to high school seniors and college students who exemplify the credit union's "people helping people" philosophy. Since the program's inception, Reliant has awarded over $313,000 in scholarships.

Applying for the 2027 Donald K. Rhine Scholarship

To be considered for a scholarship, you must:

- Be a Reliant member (holding an account in your name). If you are not a Reliant member, call 800-724-9282 or visit our website, reliantcu.com/join, to see if you are eligible to join.
- Be a high school senior, a college/university student, or an adult, and be enrolled or enrolling as a full-time college/university student in the 2027-2028 school year.
- Demonstrate the credit union philosophy of "people helping people."
- Play an active role in your community through community service.
- Demonstrate achievement in your academic performance and activities.
- Complete and provide required documentation for your application.

Application Submission and Deadline

- Application deadline is February 5, 2027.
- Scholarship recipients will be notified by April 30, 2027.
- This application will not be considered unless all information is completed in full, **typed**, on this form only, and all requested documentation is provided.
- Completed scholarship applications must be submitted electronically or returned via mail:
  - Email application documents to scholarships@reliantcu.com. Application must be received electronically on or before February 5, 2027.
  - Mail application documents to Reliant Credit Union, ATTN: Scholarship Program, PO Box 40, Sodus, NY 14551. Envelope must be postmarked by February 5, 2027.
- For questions regarding the Donald K. Rhine Scholarship program, please email scholarships@reliantcu.com or call our Member Service Center at 800-724-9282.

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Responses must be typed.
Deadline: February 5, 2027

2027 Donald K. Rhine Scholarship Program

Applicant Information

Name_____
(First, Middle, Last)

Home Address_____

Email Address_____ Preferred Telephone # (___)_____

Do you have a Reliant account in your name? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Check the box that indicates current status:

☐ High School Senior ☐ Currently enrolled full-time college/university student

☐ Adult enrolling as a full-time college/university student

Check the box that indicates what your status will be for the 2027-2028 school year:

☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Graduate Student

High School_____ Graduation Date_____

College or university you attend or plan to attend_____

Major_____

Describe your educational and career goals (in one to two sentences):

Certification and Authorization

I certify that the information provided on this application is true, complete and accurate. I authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application. If I am awarded a scholarship, Reliant Community Federal Credit Union may use my name and/or photo for publicity purposes.

_____

Applicant Signature Parent/Guardian Signature *(if under 18)*

Applicant Checklist

☐ **Typed** Application ☐ Letter of reference ☐ Most recent transcript ☐ **Typed** essay response

Responses must be typed.

Deadline: February 5, 2027 **Name:**_____

Community Service Activities

List all community activities below that you have participated in during the past four years. Make additional copies of form if necessary.

Activity	Tell us why you participate. (briefly; in one sentence)	Awards & Recognition (if applicable)	Time Invested (hours/days)	Total Time Invested (combined time)	Dates Participated List in chronological order for the past four years (2023-2026).
EXAMPLE: *Volunteer at soup kitchen*	*Everyone deserves a warm meal.*	*Volunteer of the month*	*2 hrs/wk for 6 mos.*	*48 hours.*	*June - Sept. 2025 Aug. - Oct. 2026*

Responses must be typed.

Deadline: February 5, 2027 **Name:**_____

School/Extracurricular Activities

List all school/extracurricular activities below that you have participated in during the past four years. Make additional copies of form if necessary.

Activity	**Tell us why you participate.** (briefly; in one sentence)	**Awards & Recognition** (if applicable)	**Time Invested** (hours/days)	**Total Time Invested** (combined time)	**Years Participated** List in chronological order for the past four years (2023-2026).
EXAMPLE: *Varsity Track*	*I enjoy being part of a team.*	*Sectional Champions*	*5 hrs/wk for 3 mos.*	*60 hours.*	*June - Sept. 2025 Aug. - Oct. 2026*

Responses must be typed.
Deadline: February 5, 2027 **Name:**_____

Employment History

List your recent employment history below. Make additional copies of form if necessary.

Employer	Position	Responsibilities (briefly)	Hours/Week	Dates Employed
EXAMPLE: *The ABC Co.*	*Clerk*	*Waiting on customers, dusting shelves*	*15 hrs/wk.*	*June 2024- Present*

Typed Essay Response

Each applicant must include a response to the questions below to be considered for a scholarship. **Please type response on a separate sheet of paper, maximum 500 words.**

Within the past 24 months, what community service activity have you participated in that best represented the credit union's "people helping people" philosophy? Why did you choose this activity and what impact did this have on you? What impact did this have on the community?



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Transcript

High School Applicants: Detach this page and give it to your guidance counselor or academic advisor.
College Applicants: Include your most recent college transcript that states your name and college.

Name of student:_____ Date:_____

School:_____

Dear Counselor/Academic Advisor,

The above-named student is applying for a college scholarship from Reliant Credit Union. Each applicant is required to submit a copy of their official transcript.
We appreciate your assistance in providing this information prior to the application deadline, February 5, 2027.

Thank you for you efforts on behalf of your student.

Sincerely,

Scholarship Committee
Reliant Credit Union

Note: If possible, please return all information to the scholarship applicant upon completion. If you are required to send transcript information directly, please send via mail or email:

- Via mail: **Reliant Credit Union, ATTN: Scholarship Program, PO Box 40, Sodus, NY 14551.** Envelope must be postmarked by February 5, 2027.
- Via email: Email application documents to scholarships@reliantcu.com. Transcript must be received electronically on or before February 5, 2027.

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Letter of Reference

Applicant: Please detach this page and give it to an individual such as an employer, teacher, extracurricular activity advisor, minister, or volunteer organization director.

Name of student:_____ Date:_____

School:_____

The above-named student is applying for a college scholarship from Reliant Credit Union and is requesting a letter of reference. To help ensure that you include all relevant information in your letter, we have provided a checklist of requirements below. Please make sure all boxes are checked before you submit your letter of reference, and include this form as a cover sheet.

Letter of Reference Checklist:

- ☐ The letter is **personalized** to the student and includes specific examples of the applicant demonstrating the credit union's "people helping people" philosophy.
- ☐ The letter clearly states the writer's relationship to the applicant.
- ☐ If submitting via **mail:** the letter is signed, dated, on letterhead if possible, and includes this cover sheet. Mail to: **Reliant Credit Union, ATTN: Scholarship Program, PO Box 40, Sodus, NY 14551.** Envelope must be postmarked by February 5, 2027.
- ☐ If submitting **electronically:** the letter is sent from your professional email address account, if possible; includes the letter of reference in the body of the email or as a scanned attachment on letterhead; and includes this cover sheet as an attachment. Email to: **scholarships@reliantcu.com.** Letter of reference must be received electronically on or before February 5, 2027.

Sincerely,

Scholarship Committee
Reliant Credit Union

We appreciate your assistance in providing this information prior to the application deadline, **February 5, 2027.**

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