

USHS LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP HANDBOOK 2024



This booklet lists current scholarships and general selection criteria established by those individuals and organizations who established or are involved in granting these scholarships and awards. Awards will be presented at the annual Scholarship Dinner in June.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID OVERVIEW

Student Financial Aid is defined as any money awarded to students to help them fund their college or, in some cases, vocational education. Financial aid comes in many forms, but fall into two categories:

1. **Gift Aid**- Grants & Scholarships
2. **Self-Help Aid**- Loans (borrowed money needed to be paid back) or work-study (requiring students work at a college to assist with financial need)

*This handbook focuses on gift aid and will guide you through applying for local scholarships.

GRANTS

Grants are awarded on the basis of financial need as determined by applications such as the FAFSA and the NYS Tuition Assistance Program Application. These applications will take into consideration family income and size of household when calculating the "Expected Family Contribution".

Federal Government=FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)=Pell Grants

NYS Government= TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) Grant

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are monetary awards given on the basis of academic success, leadership, volunteering, and athletics. Scholarships do not have to be repaid.

SOURCES OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

- **COLLEGES**

Students are often notified by the college if they are eligible for a scholarship upon being accepted or receiving their financial aid package letter. Students should also use the college website to research scholarships that may require an application.

- **BUSINESSES/COMPANIES, CHURCHES, UNIONS, ETC.**

These scholarships are usually available to the children of employees or members. Each student should have his or her parent/guardian check with the union steward, company personnel officer, local credit union, secretary, minister, etc. to find out what is available.

- **CORPORATIONS**

Coca-Cola, Walmart, McDonalds, Dell, Microsoft, etc.

- **CREDIT UNIONS**

Many credit unions offer scholarships for students who have bank accounts through their credit union.

- **NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

For example: FFA, 4H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), Knights of Columbus, etc.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Local scholarships at Union Springs are primarily for one year only, but do provide some financial aid.

APPLYING TO SCHOLARSHIPS

Steps for applying to local scholarships:

1. Go to www.unionspringscsd.org, select High School and go to the links section at the bottom of the page.
2. Select Xello from the list of links.
3. Click on “College Planning” under “Quick Links” on the right side of the page.
4. Click on “Local Scholarships” then click on “Search for Local Scholarships”.
5. Click on a scholarship to learn more about criteria and to access the application.
6. Applications can be printed in the library.
7. Complete all sections of the application and submit to the high school office by the due date.
8. Scholarships are listed as “NOT A LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP” and “LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP”. NOT LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS are regional so be sure to read the instructions carefully, especially regarding the submission process and due dates.
9. Please come to the high school office if you have any questions.

(All transcripts, report cards, letters of recommendation, and reference forms will be attached to local scholarship applications in the counseling office.)

HELPFUL HINTS & ADVICE

1. Be sure to read all scholarship information and applications. You may be eligible to apply for a scholarship you didn't think you would be eligible for.
2. **PAY ATTENTION TO DUE DATES!** All applications are due to their committees before or on a specific date.
3. Scholarships with a "Varies" due date have not been received by the counseling office prior to printing this handbook or have multiple scholarships available that are due on different dates. Check Xello regularly for new scholarship opportunities!
4. Please be sure you are going to apply for a scholarship prior to requesting a recommendation letter or reference from a teacher. Please be considerate of the teacher's time. Recommendations and references are very time consuming.
5. The counseling office can mail any non-local scholarship applications. Please use the "Materials Request" form in the counseling office to request an official transcript and other information. Local scholarships are noted in Xello and have "Union Springs High School Office" as their primary contact.
6. When in doubt, ask! We are here to help, so if you have any questions, stop in the high school office.
7. Write thank you notes to all your benefactors and recommenders. Be sure your note is legible. They really appreciate hearing from you!

SELECTION/NOTIFICATION PROCESS

- Once applications are received on time, they are delivered to the designated scholarship donor/selection committee.
- The committee notifies the counseling office once a recipients are chosen.
- The counseling office mails an invitation to parents/guardians inviting them to the annual scholarship dinner. (June 4, 2024)
- All students receiving a dinner invitation will receive at least one award.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTIONS

Banker Bill Scholarship

Bill Ryan, affectionately known as Banker Bill, was a lifelong resident of Union Springs, and a graduate of the USCS Class of 1959. The school and the village were near and dear to his heart. He was employed by Cayuga Lake National Bank for over 58 years, 43 of them as the President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board. He loved this community and never forgot where he came from. He always felt that it was his job to help people. When he passed away, it was only fitting that we would carry on his memory and all that he stood for by creating this scholarship.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - 2 Letters of Recommendation

Cayuga County Veterans Scholarship

This award is given annually to the graduating senior who, in the opinion of the faculty, has repeatedly demonstrated good citizenship, leadership and character, a sincere respect for their school and community and a genuine love of America. Recipient is chosen by the scholarship committee.

- **Criteria:** Military, College, or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - Resume

Cayuga Fire Department Ladies Division Scholarship

The Cayuga Fire Department Ladies Division Scholarship has been established to assist students of Union Springs Central School in furthering their education beyond high school. The sole obligation of the recipient of this award is to have the serious intention of completing his/her education in the field of his or her choice. Scholarship awards will be made by a Scholarship Selection Committee composed of three members of the Cayuga Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary. Selection will be based on the application form, school records, and recommendations. Criteria to be considered by the committee will be the applicant's personal qualifications, expressed goals, professional promise, financial need, and scholastic achievement.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
 - **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - Resume
 - 3 Letters of Recommendation
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Cayuga Fire & EMS, Inc. Scholarship

This scholarship has been established by the Cayuga Fire & EMS, Inc. to assist students of Union Springs Central School in furthering their education beyond high school.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - 3 Letters of Recommendation

Cayuga Masonic Lodge

The Cayuga Masonic Lodge Scholarship is for any individual who intends to further their studies in a trade school, vocational school, or college.

- **Criteria:** College, Trade School, or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay

The Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES Scholarship/In Memory of Muriel Webb

The Walter T. Conley American Legion Post 1107 is offering \$500 to a student from the Union Springs School District who is attending Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES. The recipient must have plans to continue his/her education at the post-secondary level.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - 2 Recommendation Forms

Clarence & Betty Chamberlain Scholarship

This scholarship is issued by the Scipio Chapter #173 O.E.S. in the memory of Clarence and Betty Chamberlain. One award of \$1000 will be given to a high school senior.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
 - **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
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The Linda M. Cooper Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been established by the children of Linda M. Cooper to assist a student of Union Springs Central School in furthering their education beyond high school. Linda was a 1965 graduate of Union Springs High School. She lived most of her life in Cayuga, raising her 3 children. She loved Cayuga and the community. She gave back to the community by volunteering over the years with the Fire Dept. Ladies Division and as a girl scout leader; as well as other capacities, even when she had very little to give. She took in any and all stray or injured animals, including wildlife, to give them the best possible outcome. She loved all animals. Linda believed education was of the utmost importance. She instilled that in everyone she came in contact with, not just her own children.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - Resume
 - 3 Letters of Recommendation

Kathryn Joy Gardner Memorial Scholarship

The Kathryn Joy Gardner Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a well-rounded, sports-minded athlete who gives his or her all, though not necessarily one of the best players-a team player. A good student who perseveres, who is motivated, and gets a great deal of satisfaction from doing his or her best. A student who has a positive attitude, who is accepting and fair with others. A young lady or gentleman who is making a difference in this world and one who touches the lives of others in a positive way.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - 2 Letters of Recommendation

The Richard J. Moon Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established in 1982 by the family and friends of this former science teacher and secondary principal in recognition of his service to Union Springs Central School from 1932 to 1970. This is a one-year award given to a worthy student who has a 90+ average to encourage him or her to go on to higher education. Selection of the recipient is by the Awards Committee with a representative of the Moon family, an officer of Cayuga Lake National Bank, and the Counselor.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
 - **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - 3 Reference Statements
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Marilyn Mekeel Ramsden Memorial Scholarships

These scholarships have been established in memory of Marilyn Mekeel Ramsden as a graduate of Union Springs High School. She was so kind to donate to our local scholarship program and asked that we provide two scholarships in her memory. One scholarship will be for a student pursuing a degree related to Home Economics. We will consider business and culinary majors in particular. The second scholarship will be for a student pursuing a degree in English related majors.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay

The Southern Cayuga Garden Club Scholarship

In the year 2024, the Southern Cayuga Garden Club (SCGC), will award to a senior in the 2024 graduating class of SCCS or USCS, a scholarship in the amount of \$500. The scholarship is for any individual student who intends to further his/her studies in the field of Horticulture, Landscape Design, Ecology/Environmental Studies or Forestry.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay

The Trufant Family Scholarship

Established in June 2008 to provide a scholarship award to students graduating from Union Springs High School. The recipients will be graduating seniors who possess' leadership qualities; are in the top 20 percent of their class; is someone who regards a challenge as an opportunity for success. Financial need is taken into consideration.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - 2 Essays
 - 3 Recommendations
 - Copy of FAFSA
 - Copy of SAT and ACT Scores

Union Springs Engine & Hose Scholarship

This scholarship has been established by the Union Springs Fire Department and its membership to assist the students of Union Springs Central School District in furthering their education beyond high school.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
 - **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Autobiography
 - 3 Reference Forms
-

Union Springs Hall of Fame Scholarship

This scholarship has been established by the Union Springs Hall of Fame Committee to honor student athletes of Union Springs High School, and to assist them in their future endeavors. To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants should be a senior athlete who has played at least one varsity sport during their high school career, with a minimum of two years of participation in a varsity sport.

Members of the Hall of Fame Scholarship Committee will review the applications and recommendations to determine a male or female recipient. Selection will be based on the individual's athletic achievements, sportsmanship, work ethic, motivation and character. Winners will be recognized at the annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and at the Senior Scholarship Dinner.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - 2 Recommendation Letters

Union Springs Lions Club/Dr. Norman L. Woodford Scholarships

The purpose of the Lions Club Scholarship is two-fold, first to give recognition to school service, community service, and to the academic accomplishment of a graduating senior, and second, to interest students in studies related to improving the quality of life for people by following careers in the health fields of sight or hearing, in conservation, in education, or in diplomacy.

The Union Springs Lions Club holds in trust for the Union Springs area community the Dr. Norman L. Woodford Scholarship Fund. The sole obligation of the recipient of a Dr. Norman L. Woodford Scholarship is to have the serious intention of completing his or her higher education with consideration given to a career in medicine or related health care field.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Autobiography
 - 3 Reference Forms

Union Springs Masonic Lodge Scholarship

The scholarship is for any individual student who intends to further his/her studies at a trade school or vocational school. All interested candidates should submit a resume to the high school office.

- **Criteria:** Trade or Vocational School
 - **Application Requirements:**
 - Resume
-

High School Student Government Scholarship

The High School Student Government will be presenting a laptop computer to any graduating high school senior who can prove enrollment to a vocational school or a two- or four-year college and meet the application requirements.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Autobiography
 - 3 Recommendation Letters

Union Springs Teachers' Association Scholarships

These scholarships are awards extended to graduating seniors of Union Springs High School by the Union Springs Teachers' Association. These grants are to be expended by students to pay expenses incurred in the purchase of books or payment of fees while in attendance at a post-secondary educational institution.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay
 - School Activities List
 - Community Activities List
 - Service and Volunteer Work List

Nick VanDerveer Memorial Scholarship

Nick VanDerveer is remembered as a loyal friend, a hardworking, ridiculously funny, kind, sports-loving athlete who enjoyed music and living life to its fullest. This scholarship aims to honor the life and legacy of our dear friend Nick by supporting a Union Springs senior student who exemplifies school spirit, is a supportive friend and ally to the community.

- **Criteria:** College, Vocational School, Military
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay

Walter T. Conley Post #1107 Scholarship

The Walter T. Conley Post #1107 Scholarship is the result of the Post's desire to assist the young people in the Union Springs District to further their education in an area of their choice at a college or trade school.

Walter T. Conley Post #1107 holds in trust for the Union Springs District the American Legion Walter T. Conley Post #1107 Scholarship Fund. A minimum amount of \$1000 will be given for each scholarship award.

- Criteria: College or Vocational School
- Application Requirements:
 - Application
 - Autobiography
 - 3 Reference Forms

Nancy Wheeler Peters Memorial Fund Scholarship

The Nancy Wheeler Peters Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a well-rounded, graduating senior who has taken part in extracurricular activities while maintaining an honor roll or better GPA. A student who is motivated, with a positive attitude, who is accepting and fair to others. He or she should be driven to make a difference in the world while touching the lives of others in a positive way. Two Scholarships of \$750.00 each will be awarded to two USCS Graduating Seniors.

- Criteria: College or Vocational School
- Application Requirements:
 - Application
 - Essay
 - 2 Letters of Recommendation

Michele J. West Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship has been established by the family and friends of Michele J. West. Michele was the 1977 valedictorian of Union Springs High School and went on to study and graduate from the University of Notre Dame. Students must be planning to study in the fields of Math, Science, or Engineering.

- Criteria: College or Vocational School
 - Application Requirements:
 - Application
 - 3 Essays
 - Copy of FAFSA
 - Copy of ACT/SAT Scores
 - 3 Recommendation Forms
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Youth Activity Scholarship

In keeping with the goals of assisting the youth of our community, the Sons of the American Legion, Walter T. Conley Squadron 1107, will be sponsoring two \$500 awards to students from Southern Cayuga and Union Springs Central Schools. Applicants do not necessarily need to be a dependent of a Legion member, Auxiliary member or a member of the Sons of the American Legion. The winners of the awards (two from each school) will be chosen by a panel selected by the Sons of the American Legion.

- **Criteria:** College or Vocational School
- **Application Requirements:**
 - Application
 - Essay