

2025-26 Academic Scholarships for People with Cystic Fibrosis

Boomer Esiason Foundation Academic Scholarships

BEF will be awarding 20 students a **\$10,000 scholarship** each for undergraduate and graduate students, with the opportunity for more financial aid. The BEF Scholarship committee considers the applicant's scholastic ability, character, leadership potential, service to the community and need for financial assistance. During the application process, students will be given the option to write a long-form essay answering a specific question pertaining to a scholarship designation. Completing the essay automatically enters the student into the pool of candidates who will be considered for additional financial assistance. Once candidates are selected as semi-finalists, they will be granted a phone interview with a committee member. Documentation requirements can be found on the website. The scholarship designations are:

- **Bonnie Strangio Memorial**
- **Rosemary Quigley Memorial**
- **Jerry Cahill You Cannot Fail Distinction**
- **Lea Faraone Memorial**
- **Team Boomer Distinction**
- **Exemplary Graduate Student Distinction**
- **Paul Drury Memorial Scholarship** (for an *immediate family member* of someone with CF)

Deadline: Friday, April 18, 2025

Website: www.esiason.org/assistance/scholarships/

Boomer Esiason Foundation "Sacks for CF Scholarship"

The Sacks for CF Scholarship is related to quarterback sacks made during the NFL season. The *undergraduate and graduate* award is made annually to 30 people who strive for therapy adherence and academic success. For every sack recorded during NFL Monday Night Football games, the Sacks for CF Scholarship Program receives a donation from a Boomer Esiason Foundation corporate partner. Sacks for CF funds are awarded annually to 30 college students, based on their academic achievements and adherence to daily CF therapy.

Deadline: Friday, January 10, 2025

Website: www.esiason.org/assistance/scholarships/sacks-for-cf-scholarship/

The Bonnell Foundation: Living with Cystic Fibrosis Scholarship

This scholarship program is for undergraduate study only. Applicants must have received an acceptance letter from the college to which they intend to enroll. If selected as a recipient, students will receive **up to \$2500** as an award.

Deadline: Applications **open January 2025**.

Website: www.thebonnellfoundation.org/scholarships/

Vertex Foundation Scholarship

Scholarships are awarded to help people with cystic fibrosis (CF) and their *immediate family members* who are US/Canadian citizens to pursue collegiate two-year, four-year or graduate degrees. Scholarships are **\$5,000 US/CAD**.

Deadline: Applications **open December 2024**. Please visit the website for further details.

Website: www.vertexfoundation.org/healthy-families

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AbbVie CF Scholarship for Higher Education:

Designed for students with CF pursuing an undergraduate degree (Associate's/2-year college, Bachelor's/4-year college, trade/vocational school) or graduate degree (Master's, M.D., J.D., doctorate). Applicants must have completed high school or obtained a General Educational Development (GED) certification on or before June. Each year, AbbVie awards 40 scholars with **\$3,000** each. Two of these students are then selected to receive a Thriving Student Scholarship, winning an additional **\$22,000** each.

Deadline: 2025 deadline to be announced (**Spring 2025**).

Website: www.abbviecfscholarship.com/overview/

Elizabeth Nash Foundation Scholarship Program

The scholarship is open to individuals with CF who are US citizens, who are incoming or current undergraduate or graduate students at an accredited US-based college or university. In selecting applicants, the Scholarship Committee takes into consideration each applicant's scholastic record, character, demonstrated leadership, service to CF-related causes and the broader community, and need for financial assistance. Scholarship awards range from **\$1,000 to \$2,500**.

Deadline: Applications will be available by February 1, 2025 and **due in early April 2025**.

Website: www.elizabethnashfoundation.org/scholarships.html

Jennifer Leigh Soper Cystic Fibrosis Scholarship

This scholarship provides a non-renewable scholarship of at least **\$1,000** to a college-bound student with cystic fibrosis. Past recipients are eligible to reapply. Eligible applicants must be enrolled full-time at an accredited college/university, community college or technical school for the upcoming academic year and must exhibit potential for academic success.

Deadline: Application Opens – December 6, 2024. **Due March 7, 2025** by 11:59 (EST).

Website: www.bgcf.org/scholarships/

Mandy Wagner Foundation

Accepting applications for people with CF seeking further education *in trade or technical school, certificate programs, community college, undergraduate/graduate programs, and doctorate programs*. Denominations are provided in **\$500** and **\$1,000** amounts to award as many recipients as possible. There is no limit on the number of years a person may apply.

Deadline: Check website for updates in December 2024.

Website: <https://www.mandywagnerfoundation.org/apply-now>

Andrew W. Eve Memorial Scholarship

Any person with CF is eligible to submit an application for an award of **\$1,000** from the Andrew W. Eve Memorial Scholarship. The applicant must attend an accredited college with a major course of study in one of the following public safety curricula: *Communications, Fire Science, Criminal Justice, Emergency Medicine, and Police Science*.

Deadline: Check website for updates.

Website: <https://cffamilyconnection.org/programs/andrew-w-eve-memorial-scholarship/>

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Coach-Ed Academic Scholarship

Coach-Ed provides academic scholarships of up to **\$1,000 per semester/\$2,000 per academic year** to qualified students with cystic fibrosis to attend accredited four-year college programs. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, but must be received at least 2 months prior to the beginning of the next semester. Scholarships may be renewed, but students must reapply each academic year and must provide transcripts.

Deadline: Spring - March 1-April 30; Fall - September 1-October 31.

Website: www.coach-ed.org/programs

Bowman Brothers Trade Scholarship

This scholarship opportunity is open to adults (18+) living with cystic fibrosis who will be attending a *trade school*. People must complete the application found on the website. The finalists will be reviewed by the ROCK CF Committee on financial need and the application essay. Finalists will complete a phone interview as a follow-up to their essay.

Deadline: Check website for 2025-26 academic year updates.

Website: <https://letsrockcf.org/bowman-brothers-trade-scholarship>

US Adult Cystic Fibrosis Association (USACFA) Scholarships

USACFA offers scholarships for people with CF who are seeking *artistic and/or educational degrees*. These scholarships are paid to the bursar's office at the winner's institution and covers any costs paid through that office. You will not receive more than one scholarship per academic year, but you may apply for more than one scholarship in an academic year.

Higher Education Scholarship in Memory of Lauren Melissa Kelly: The academic scholarships of up to **\$2500** are awarded to two adults with cystic fibrosis who are pursuing career certifications, associates, and bachelor and graduate degrees.

Scholarship for the Arts in Memory of Helen M. Eisenman: This scholarship will award two deserving students **\$5,000** each towards their tuition in their respective *field of the arts*: fine arts, computer graphics, design, music, choral, photography, filmmaking, creative writing, and poetry, to name a few. It is open to anyone seeking a degree, from an associate to a doctoral degree in the *creative arts*.

The William Coon, Jr. Scholarship: This scholarship will award 20 scholarships, valued at **\$2,500** each. Four scholarships will be awarded per academic year for five consecutive years. Any student with CF seeking a degree in any of the following is welcome to apply: *business, economics, communications, political science, information, project management, finance, accounting, public administration, or marketing*.

The Stenzel Scholarship: The Ana and Isa Stenzel Scholarship is a **\$2,500** scholarship that may be awarded once annually to a person with cystic fibrosis who is, during the period for which the scholarship award is paid, enrolled in a course of higher education leading to a degree granted by an institution in the United States in either *health science, social work, mental health science, genetic counseling, or environmental science*.

Deadlines: Check website for 2025-26 updates.

Website: www.cfroundtable.com/scholarships

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Dylan's Dream Scholarship

Scholarships for those diagnosed with CF who are accepted at a college, university, or trade/vocational school for the upcoming semester in the United States of America. Student must be in good academic standing (not on academic warning/probation) with a GPA of 2.0 or higher at time of application. Scholarships are awarded in amounts **up to \$2500** and you must apply each semester. Scholarships are based on financial need. Application can be submitted online, or via paper application sent by mail.

Deadline: Applications accepted year-round. Application processing may take up to 6 weeks.

Website: www.dylansdream.org/apply-for-scholarship/

Scholarships for Those Living with a Chronic Illness/Disability

Patient Advocate Foundation's Survivor Scholarship (Undergraduate & Graduate)

Undergraduate students must be under age 25, a full-time student, and have been diagnosed and/or actively treated for cancer or chronic illness in the past 5 years. The undergraduate award is **\$3,000** per academic year, or a total of \$12,000. *Graduate* students must have been diagnosed and/or been actively treated for cancer or chronic illness in the past 10 years. The graduate award is **\$3,000** per academic year, or a total of \$6,000. Scholarship recipients must agree to complete 20 hours of community service and maintain a certain GPA. See the website for more details.

Deadline: March 7, 2025

Website: www.patientadvocate.org/connect-with-services/apply-for-a-scholarship/

The Susanna DeLaurentis Memorial Scholarship

The Susanna DeLaurentis Memorial Scholarships are awarded each year to *college-bound high school seniors* with superior academic and extracurricular achievements who contend with a chronic disease or other serious challenge to physical or mental health. The scholarship is a **\$1,000** award, paid directly to the honoree's institution of higher learning.

Deadline: Applications must be received by the **third Friday in April**.

Website: www.thesusannafoundation.org/scholarships/

#RAREis Scholarship Fund

EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases established the #RAREis Scholarship Fund – to enrich the lives of adults living with rare diseases. One-time awards of **\$5,000** each will be granted for the Fall semester. Applicants must be 17yo or older, living in the US, with a plan to enroll full-time or part-time in undergraduate or graduate study at an accredited *two- or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical/trade school* for the Fall semester. Students are also able to take *non-traditional classes*, such as photography or art classes, as long as they are accredited. A single class is included under the definition of “part-time” status and do not need to be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree. As of 2024, the lifetime limit to receive the scholarship is 4 times.

Deadline: April 28, 2025 (opens March 17, 2025)

Website: <https://everylifefoundation.org/rare-scholarship/>

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NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship

The NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship recognizes eight (8) students with disabilities who are *passionate about increasing disability representation in the media, communications, or entertainment industries*. High school seniors, undergraduate, and graduate students with disabilities who are pursuing careers in *media, communications, or entertainment industries* that will be enrolled in college or a university during Fall 2025 are eligible. Each recipient will receive \$5,625 to help cover the cost of education at their college or university.

Deadline: Check website for updates for the 2025-26 academic year

Website: <https://www.aapd.com/nbcuniversal-tony-coelho-media-scholarship/>

General Academic Scholarship & Grant Information

There are many more scholarship and grant opportunities available to those pursuing continuing education. Some examples include those based on income, GPA, area of study, or geography.

Here are some tips for identifying additional financial aid resources:

- Check with your **high school guidance** counselor and/or your **college/university**.
- Look at **local foundations/organizations** that may offer scholarships to students in your community, such as your local Rotary Club or Knights of Columbus.
- There are many **scholarship search platforms** available online. We have included several here, but this is not an exhaustive list:
 - FastWeb: www.fastweb.com
 - College Board Scholarship Directory: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/scholarship-directory
 - Scholarships.com: www.scholarships.com
 - Finaid: www.finaid.org
- Search for scholarships or grants that may apply to **another part of your identity**:
 - Scholarships.com has lists of scholarships for Hispanic and Latino students, First in Family [to attend college], Leadership, Community Service, etc. www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/
 - UNCF is the nation's largest private scholarship provider to *Black, African-American and African students attending historically black colleges and universities* (HBCU's): www.uncf.org/scholarships
 - Human Rights Campaign's LGBTQ+ Student Scholarship Database for *LGBTQ+ and allied students* at both the undergraduate and graduate level: www.hrc.org/resources/scholarships

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Scholarships/Grants for Residents of New England States

- **Massachusetts**
 - MA Office of State Financial Aid Program: www.mass.edu/osfa/programs/programs.asp
- **New Hampshire**
 - NH Charitable Foundation: www.nhcf.org/how-can-we-help-you/apply-for-a-scholarship/
- **Maine**
 - Maine Community Foundation: www.mainecef.org/find-a-scholarship/
 - Finance Authority of Maine (FAME): www.famemaine.com/affording-education/pay-for-school/maine-scholarship-search/
- **Rhode Island**
 - RI Foundation: www.rifoundation.org/grants-scholarships/browse-scholarships
- **Connecticut**
 - CT Community Foundation: <https://conncf.org/apply-for-scholarships/>
- If your home state is not listed here, you can search for resources online [for example, you can type: "(your state name) financial aid"].