

**KENDALL-GRUNDY COMMUNITY ACTION**  
**2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**COMPLETED APPLICATION IS DUE BY: FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026**

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

The Community Services Block Grant Scholarship is designed in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide financial assistance to income-eligible students. Scholarships will go toward providing formal education or occupational training in an accredited Illinois educational institution.

**Scholarships may be used for tuition and fees, textbooks, supplies, or room and board.** Scholarship awards will be made directly to the college or university's financial aid office for use by the student as needed.

This is a competitive scholarship based on merit, not solely on financial need. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply by the deadline of **4:30PM on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. **No late applications will be accepted.**

**ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

Successful scholarship recipients must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Resident of Kendall County or Grundy County.
2. Member of an **income-eligible** household.
3. Possess a high school diploma, GED or must have graduated by July 1, 2025, from an accredited high school/GED Administering institution.
4. Applicants must be accepted into a college, university, accredited online program, or occupational training program on at least a half-time basis.
5. Applicants may identify community involvement
6. The application must be completed entirely.
7. Has the applicant attested that they will participate in the Agency Education/Financial Literacy application component?

**In order to be considered for the Scholarship Program you must include the following documents in your packet. Failure to submit all required documents will cause your application to be denied.**

- Complete Scholarship application forms.
- Proof of entire family household **30 days gross income**.
- Completed copy of the attached application including Federal Tax Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ.
- Copy of your Photo ID
- Social Security Cards **for everyone** in the household
- Demonstrate a commitment to civic and public affairs.
- Essay of 250-500 words typed and double-spaced describing your future relating to your educational goals.
- Demonstrate goals and purpose.
- Three signed and dated Personal Recommendation Forms.  
(Please utilize the attached forms)
- Unofficial transcripts signed and dated.
- Proof of enrollment at an accredited higher educational or occupational training institute.
- **Mandatory** brief 10-minute interview with the Scholarship Committee.

The CSBG income eligibility guidelines for the Kendall-Grundy area are as follows:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>Monthly income</u>
1	\$31,920	\$2,660
2	\$43,280	\$3,607
3	\$54,640	\$4,553
4	\$66,000	\$5,500
5	\$77,360	\$6,447
6	\$88,720	\$7,393

For each additional household member, add \$11,360 annually or \$947 monthly.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Questions regarding the Scholarship Program should be directed to:

**Melissa Creamer**  
**Community Action Services Director**  
**Kendall-Grundy Community Action**  
**Kendall County Health Department**  
**811 W. John St. - Yorkville, IL 60560**  
**(630) 553-8013**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**  
**SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS**

Applications will be evaluated by a Scholarship Committee composed of representatives of area Social Service agencies, public officials and private citizens serving as members on the Kendall County Health Department Community Action Advisory Board. The Scholarship Committee will review all written applications that are submitted by the deadline of **4:30 PM on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. **Late applications will not be considered.**

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria and points system:

A. Academic Information  
(Unofficial Transcripts Acceptable)

4.0 GPA Scale	5.0 GPA Scale	POINTS
2.0 or less	3.0 or less	1
2.1-2.5	3.1-3.5	2
2.6-3.0	3.6-4.0	3
3.1-3.5	4.1-4.5	4
3.6-4.0	4.6-5.0	5

B. Essay Review

This section of the selection process will assess if the applicant has submitted a complete and thorough description for the chosen essay topics. Essay topics can be found on page 7 of this application.

POINTS				
1	2	3	4	5
Insufficient	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Outstanding

C. Application Review

This section of the selection process will award a score of either 1 (no) or 5 (yes) on the basis that the following application criteria are met:

8. Is the applicant CSBG eligible?
9. Did the applicant identify community involvement?
10. Was the application completed?
11. Has the applicant attested to participate in the Agency Education/Financial Literacy application component?



**Financial Information**

(Traditional Students)

PLEASE SUBMIT A COPY OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD'S 2025 FEDERAL TAX FORM 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ.

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Household information (please list information on everyone living in the home, **including self**)

Name	Relationship to Applicant	Age	Sex	Source of Income	30 Day Income Amount	Race	Ethnicity: Hispanic or Non-Hispanic

**Gross Income: (total of above)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dependents attending college. \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain any unusual circumstances: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Education Background**

**Name of last High School attended:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

**Name of College/University, Trade School or Certification Program:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

Have you already applied? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been accepted? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you already attend classes at chosen college?: Yes No

Will you be: Remote In-person Hybrid

Give a brief description of what you plan to study including duration of the course(s) and what, if any, certificate or degree you will receive upon completion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Full-time: \_\_\_\_\_ (12 or more semester hours)

Part-time: \_\_\_\_\_ (less than 12 semester hours)

What other scholarships have you received or applied for?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently receiving any scholarship aid or tuition assistance? Yes No

If so, please name:

\_\_\_\_\_

- What is your expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_
- What is your average GPA?: \_\_\_\_\_
- When did you graduate High School or obtain your GED?: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please attach either a high school/GED or college transcript. **An official transcript is NOT required.**

### **Community Service-Focused Essay Requirements**

Please attach a brief narrative (250-500 words) describing your future relating to your educational goals. Information provided in this narrative will be used in the evaluation of this application. Applicants only need to provide one essay. Applicants will need to answer at least one of the following questions in their essay:

1. Describe your future and educational goals. Explain what you want to study, why you chose this field, and how your career could support programs or services that help the community.
2. Think about a time when you helped others or participated in community service. How did that experience shape your goals for the future, and how do you plan to continue serving your community through your education and career?
3. Describe a service, or organization that inspires you. How do your future career goals connect to this type of work, and how could you contribute to helping others through your chosen field?
4. Imagine your future as a leader in your community. What kind of community services would you like to create or improve, and how will your education prepare you to make that vision a reality?

### **Community Involvement Component**

Community involvement is participation in activities that support, strengthen, or improve a community. This may include volunteering, leadership, advocacy, or service through organizations or informal efforts that help individuals or families in need.

1. Please briefly describe your community involvement.

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2. What organization, group, or community did you serve (if applicable)?

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3. What was your role or type of service?

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4. How did your involvement benefit the community?

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**Financial Literacy/Agency Education Attestation Statement**

Attestation Statement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby attest that I will complete the Financial Literacy / Agency Education component as required by the Kendall-Grundy Community Action Services Scholarship. By signing below, I affirm that the information provided in this statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Application Affirmation and Authorization to Verify Information (initial after each statement that is true):

I certify that the information contained in this application is accurate and a complete disclosure of the requested information. \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby acknowledge that the information relating to the determination of my eligibility requires verification and I authorize others to release such information as may be required for the determination of my eligibility for this scholarship. \_\_\_\_\_

I permit Kendall-Grundy Community Action to share my information with the media. \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I may be contacted for additional documentation. \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY 4:30 PM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026:**

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