## **Columbia College Scholarship Application Guide**

Step-by-Step Instructions for Applicants

The Columbia College Foundation offers more than 100 scholarship opportunities each year. By completing one online application through AwardSpring, you may be considered for many scholarships. This guide will walk you through the process and provide tips for success.

### 1. Getting Started

- Visit the Columbia College Scholarship website: gocolumbia.edu/columbia\_college\_foundation/scholarships.html
- Click the **APPLY NOW** button.

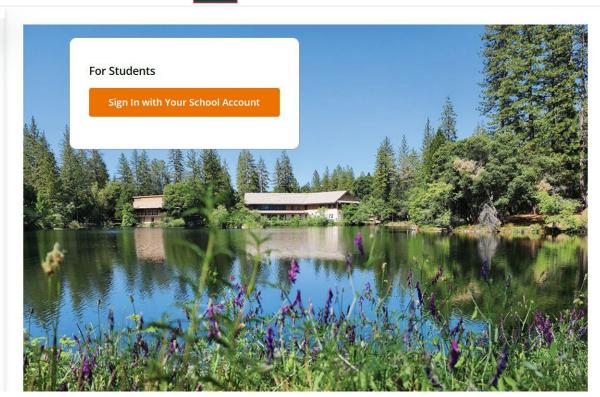
# THE 2025-2026 COLUMBIA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN

Questions? Call the Columbia College Foundation at (209) 588-5065

APPLY NOW

• Click the *Sign in with your School Account* button and **sign in using your student email credentials.** 



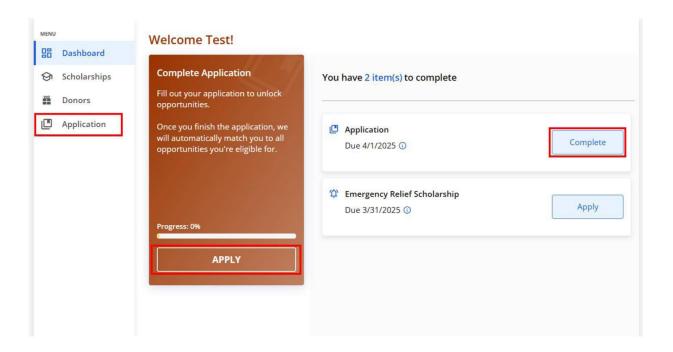


## 2. Dashboard Overview

Once you log in, you'll land on your Dashboard, which shows:

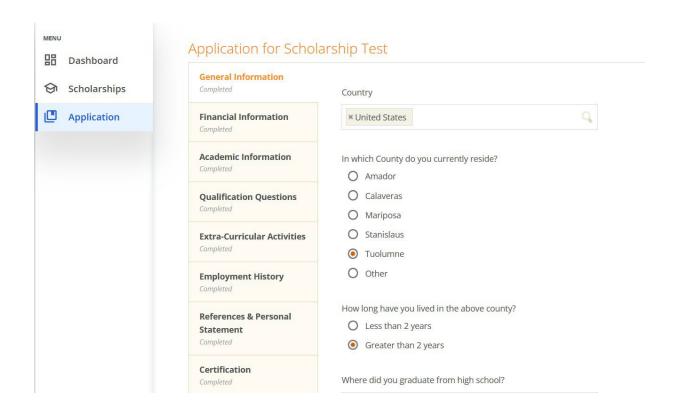
- The status of your application
- Any tasks or additional instructions
- Updates about scholarship opportunities

To begin, click on Application, Apply, or Complete to start filling out your general application.



# 3. Application Sections

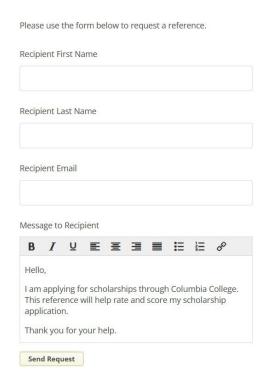
Your application is divided into several sections. You must complete all of them before you can submit.



#### **Reference Tab**

- You will need two references.
- Enter the first name, last name, and email of each reference.
- We suggest choosing:
  - Professors (preferably in your major)
  - Counselors
  - School officials
- Choose people who know you well and can speak to your strengths, character, and potential.

Reminder: Ask your references early so they have plenty of time. Double-check that they received the request email and follow up if needed.



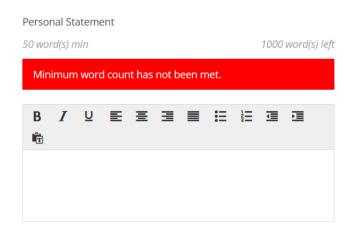
Complete the required information and click the **Send Request** button. Your reference will receive an email request and provide the requested information directly in the scholarship application.

The request will sit in a pending state until it is completed by the reference.



#### **Personal Statement Tab**

- You will need to provide a personal statement (maximum 1,000 words).
- **P** Tips for your essay:
- Share your story—what motivates you, challenges you've overcome, and your goals.
- Highlight academic achievements, community involvement, and career aspirations.
- Be clear, genuine, and specific.



## 4. Submitting Your Application

- After you complete all sections, the Submit Application button (bottom right) will appear.
- Review the certification statement and click **Submit Application** and you'll be redirected back to your Dashboard.

#### **5. Checking Scholarship Matches**

- Click the Scholarships tab to see which scholarships you qualify for.
- Some scholarships may require extra steps (such as answering an essay question or uploading documents).
- Click Complete to finish any follow-up tasks.

#### 6. Final Steps

- Once you've completed all tasks, your Dashboard will show no pending items.
- At this point, your application is fully submitted!
- See Congratulations! You've taken an important step toward achieving your educational goals. The Foundation team will contact you if further information is needed.