American Association of University Women Buffalo Branch, Inc.
Women Entering College Scholarship

Guidelines:

- **Materials (recommendations, transcripts and applications) must be postmarked or received electronically by February 13, 2026. Applications submitted online must have an e-signature.**
- Up to four merit-based scholarship awards: each in the amount of $5,000.
- Applicant must be female and, at the time of application (i.e., in February), a high school senior planning to enter college in the fall of 2026.
- Applicant must be attending an accredited college or university in the fall following the application; proof of enrollment required to receive award.
- Applicant must be a resident of Erie or Niagara County, New York.
- Scholarship is merit based; a grade point average of 95 or 3.5/4.0 will be considered for this scholarship. If a GPA is not available, we require information from the institution which would provide equivalent values.
- Applicant must submit two letters of recommendation. The letters must include the name and school of the applicant plus the name, phone number and position of the recommender.
  1) One must be from outside the applicant's high school (job or volunteer supervisor)
  2) One must be from within the applicant's high school (teacher, administrator, or guidance counselor)
- Applicant must obtain official transcripts of **all** high schools attended.
- **Letters of recommendation and transcripts may be sent in one of two ways:**
  1) Recommenders and colleges may send the documents directly to our address or email address.
  2) You may obtain SEALED original letters of recommendation and transcripts, and you may send those sealed along with your application (in a single envelope). This gives you the greatest control over the receipt of your application and supporting materials.

  In either case, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that the documents are received by the deadline. Late or missing materials will disqualify the application.
- Applicant must write a 1-page essay on the topic provided in this application.
- Applicant must list student activities and a brief description of the leadership role played in them. Include what you find most rewarding or valuable about your participation in these activities.
- Applicant must list community involvement and a brief description of the benefits received from it and must list awards and honors received.
- Applicant must attend a personal interview if requested to do so.
- Applications and supporting documents must be received by the deadline. It is applicant's responsibility to send or mail in time and to ensure that all transcripts, references, etc. are sent in time to meet the deadline. Applications postmarked after the deadline will not be accepted. It is highly suggested that applicants send or mail materials *at least two days prior to the deadline.*
- Awards will be announced by mid-April and presented after receiving confirmation / proof of enrollment.
- All applications must be computer printed using at least a 12-point font. Handwritten applications will not be considered.

Send completed applications and all printed materials to:

Women Entering College Scholarship Committee, 5500 N Bailey Ave, PO Box 844, Amherst, NY 14226 OR Email: enteringcollege@aauwbuffalo.org to ask questions or submit an online application.

AAUW is a non-profit organization which advances equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Many of our scholarships are funded through the AAUW-Buffalo annual Used Book Sale - volunteers are welcome!

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PLEASE FILL IN ONLINE OR TYPE. You may attach information to the application.
HAND-WRITTEN APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Name_____Contact Phone No._____

Address_____City_____State_____Zip _____

School_____Date of graduation _____

School Address_____City_____County _____

Course of Study_____Email Address: _____

Letters of Recommendation (list name of reference)

1st Reference _____

2nd Reference _____

Applicant's Declaration

I certify that all of the information contained in my application form is accurate and that I did not receive any assistance (including AI) in completing the essay portion of this application. I understand that, at the option of American Association of University Women Buffalo Branch, Inc., I may be interviewed as a candidate for the Women Entering College Scholarship Award. I consent to the review and release of this application to the appropriate persons of AAUW, Buffalo Branch. I also consent to the release of my name and information for publicity purposes if I am an award recipient.

Signature/e-Signature_____Date _____

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Please type in the space provided or use a separate sheet of paper to answer these questions.

Introduce Yourself- In three to five sentences, tell us about yourself including your current class schedule and current career interests.

For example: "I am a high school senior at_____. I plan to attend college to study_____and hope to pursue a career in_____.

Student Activities - Describe your past and present student activities and the leadership role you played in them. Please include what you find most rewarding or valuable about your participation in these activities and what you have learned about yourself and others.

Community Involvement - Describe the past and present activities in which you participated that benefit your community. Why did you select these activities and how have they affected your personal growth?

Work Experience - List any work or volunteer experience and what you gained from that experience.

Awards/Recognition/Honors - List any awards/recognition/honors which you have received.

Where/how did you learn about this scholarship program?

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ESSAY IS TO BE APPROXIMATELY 1 PAGE, single-sided, double-spaced, minimum 12-point font. (no more than two pages)

USE A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER. PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME, EMAIL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER ON YOUR ESSAY SHEET.

Discuss how you think you can be a role model to others.

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANT:

- ☐ Complete application, including essay, sent to: Women Entering College Scholarship Committee, 5500 N Bailey Ave, PO Box 844, Amherst, NY 14226 OR enteringcollege@aauwbuffalo.org
- ☐ Transcript(s) requested
- ☐ Two letters of recommendation, each including recommendee and recommender information.

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School Administrator/Guidance Counselor/Teacher Recommendation

Applicant's Name: _____

To the recommender: The young woman named above has applied for an AAUW Buffalo Branch Scholarship awarded by the American Association of University Women, Buffalo Branch. Please discuss the applicant's personal strengths, accomplishments and potential for future success.

This recommendation must be mailed directly to the address listed below and postmarked by Feb 13, 2026

School letterhead may be used, but please be sure all the information on this page is included and use at least a 12-point font.

Name _____ Title or Position _____

Signature _____ School _____

Date _____ Phone _____

Recommendations must be postmarked or received electronically by February 13, 2026**.**

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OR Email: enteringcollege@aauwbuffalo.org. Email to ask questions.

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Non-Family Adult Recommendation (Job or Volunteer Supervisor)

Applicant's Name: _____

To the recommender: The young woman named above has applied for an AAUW Buffalo Branch Scholarship awarded by the American Association of University Women, Buffalo Branch. Please discuss the applicant's personal strengths, accomplishments and potential for future success.

This recommendation must be mailed directly to the address listed below and postmarked by Feb 13, 2026

Company letterhead may be used, but please be sure all the information on this page is included and use at least a 12-point font.

Name _____ Title or Position _____

Signature _____ Company _____

Date _____ Phone _____

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