

**Student Scholarship Application Package
for the Genesee Valley Chapter
of the
New York Water Environment Association, Inc.**

The Genesee Valley Chapter of the New York Water Environment Association will be offering up to three (3) scholarships for a total amount of \$3,000:

- Students enrolled at a college or university who are or will be enrolled in an environmentally related program.
- High school students who will be enrolled in an environmentally related program in a two-year or four-year college or university.

Please submit your completed application no later than June 30, 2026.

Scholarship Instructions & Criteria for Applicants

Instructions for Applicants

To apply for a scholarship:

1. Fill out all of the pages of the Application. Be sure to type or print neatly. It is very important that you do not leave any blanks.
2. Letter verifying enrollment or acceptance in a college environmental program on college stationary.
3. Attach Letters of Recommendation (two); one must be from a teacher.
4. Attach an official transcript or report card.
5. Attach requested essays.
6. Submit your completed application no later than June 30, 2026. Awards will be announced on or around August 1st.
7. Additional details are provided on the facing page titled "Scholarship Policy & Procedure".
8. All applicants must be New York State residents.

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Scholarship – College Students (Undergraduate and Graduate Levels)

Eligibility Requirements:

- The applicant must be enrolled as a student in an environmentally related program that allows them to pursue a professional career in the environmental field.
- The applicant must be a registered student in good standing at a college or university and will begin their Sophomore, Junior, Senior, or Graduate Level year by September of the application year.

Scholarship – High School Students Pursuing Environmental Studies

Eligibility Requirements:

- The applicant must be a High School Senior in good standing, who has applied to a college or university with the interest of pursuing a course of study in the environmental field.
- Student winner must show proof of enrollment in the environmentally related program at the college or university in September of the application year to receive a scholarship check.

Essay Questions

Please complete responses to each of the following questions. Your response to each question should be 500 to 600 words. Please type your responses.

Career Objective Essay: What career choice have you chosen to pursue and how would you positively impact the environment with this career?

Environmental Objective Essay: It has been said that water is the most precious commodity we have. Describe what personal efforts and initiatives you might take, or have taken, to help ensure the protection of this resource for future generations.

Scholarship – NYWEA Chapters

Additional scholarships are available through other NYWEA chapters as well. Call the local chapter chair or the NYWEA Executive Office for additional information. (See also the NYWEA website, www.nywea.org).

Scholarship Policy and Procedures

1. Applications must be accompanied by:
 - a. A Letter of Recommendation on school letterhead from one of the student's teachers or professors.
 - b. A Letter of Recommendation from a personal or professional reference.
 - c. Latest Transcript or Report Card.
 - d. Required essays.
2. Applicants shall submit their scholarship application to the Scholarship Committee of the Genesee Valley Chapter for review.
3. To be eligible for a scholarship, the student must meet the criteria outlined in the Instructions for Applicants listed on the previous pages.
4. Selection Criteria to be considered and evaluated by the Scholarship Committee may include the following:
 - a. Career Objective (Essay): Relevance of career objective to the Environmental field.
 - b. Academic potential: Grade Point Average and discipline of courses taken.
 - c. Other Activities: Activities in programs and organizations demonstrating leadership qualities and good environmental stewardship.
 - d. Environmental Interest (Essay): Demonstrates a commitment to pursue an education in the Environmental field of study.
5. The Genesee Valley Chapter Scholarship Committee consists of no less than 3 individuals, as appointed by the Board of Directors. The Scholarship Committee shall nominate students for scholarships to the Board of Directors.
6. Once the nominees are accepted by the Scholarship Committee, a minimum of three qualified nominees will be selected by the Scholarship Committee and sent to the Genesee Valley Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will then select the winning application based on the Selection Criteria listed above. The President will notify the winning applicant by letter by no later than June 1 of that year.
7. To receive payment, the applicant must maintain a GPA of 2.5 out of 4.0 for the current year of study. Failure to achieve the minimum GPA will result in forfeiture of the scholarship award.
8. The recipient will be eligible to receive awards in subsequent years.
9. Winning applicants will be awarded their scholarship by a NYWEA representative at a Local Chapter event.
10. Funds will be released during the fall of each year directly to the recipient as soon as an acceptable copy of a Bursar's receipt for attendance of an accredited institution is received.
11. A complimentary one-year student membership in the New York Water Environment Association will be awarded to the winners.

About the Association

The New York Water Environment Association, Inc. (NYWEA) was founded in 1929 by professionals in the field of water quality as a non-profit, educational organization. Association members helped lead the way toward existing state and national clean water programs. Today, the Association has over 2,200 members representing many diverse backgrounds and specialties, but all are concerned and involved with protecting and enhancing our precious water resources.

Members

Members include civil, design and environmental engineers, biologists, chemists, local and state government officials, treatment plant managers and operators, laboratory technicians, students, professors, lawyers, environmental scientists, equipment manufacturers and distributors.

Mission Statement

To provide a forum for educational opportunities, professional development, and dissemination of information to our members, and to increase the public understanding of and promotion of sound public laws and programs in the water environment field.

Student Chapters

Brooklyn College – CUNY New York City
City College, Civil Engineering Dept.
Clarkson University, Potsdam
Cooper Union, NYC
Hofstra University, Hemstead
Manhattan College, NYC
New York Institute of Technology, NYC
Polytechnic University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy
Stony Brook University, SUNY, Stonybrook
SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse
University of Buffalo, SUNY Buffalo



Genesee Valley Chapter Scholarship Application

(All blanks must be filled in or else application will be deemed incomplete)

The New York Water Environment Association, Genesee Valley Chapter

Applicant Information (Applicant must be a resident of New York State)

Name: _____ Phone: (_____)_____-_____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

County: _____

School Information

Name of School: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ Grade Point Average: _____

SAT / ACT Score: _____ Class Rank: _____ out of _____

Honors or Awards Received: _____

Extracurricular Activities: _____

Hobbies: _____

Education Goals: _____

Career Goals: _____

Current Employer, if any: _____

Hours per week: _____

Please specify college or university you will be attending, or if still unknown, schools applied to:

Intended Major: _____

Other Scholarship Information

Are you the recipient of any other scholarship this year Yes No

If yes, please list from which organization(s) and the amounts:

Essay Questions

Please write essays to answer the questions listed on the Scholarship Instructions & Criteria for Applicants. It will be necessary to use separate sheets of paper, since your response to each question should be 500 to 600 words. Please type your responses. **Points will be deducted if responses are not typed.**

Certification and Release Authorization

The following information must be completed for the applicant to be considered for scholarship awards.

I certify this information is true, complete and accurate. I also authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Checklist:

For a submission to be considered for a scholarship, it must be complete. The following items are all required:

Complete and sign application. Please type or print neatly. All blanks filled in. Please attach to the completed application the following information:

1. Requested essays.
2. Official school transcript (copies not accepted).
3. A minimum of two letters of recommendation, one must be from a teacher; the others must be from someone not related to the applicant.

Email all correspondence to:

Mr. Michael Hershelman
Monroe County DES

50 W. Main St., Suite 7100
Rochester, NY 14614

Phone: (585) 753- 7523
Email: michaelherschelman@monroecounty.gov