

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WAYNESVILLE, NC  
COLLEGE FUND AWARDS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Generous donors to the First Presbyterian Church of Waynesville, NC's Endowment Fund have directed that a portion of their gifts be designated to provide financial awards for college bound students or students already in undergraduate college/university programs. The Endowment Team has approved awarding \$500 to eligible students for the 2025-2026 school year. The maximum award for any student is \$2,000 over 4 years. Applicants are required to submit an application and essay each year (see Application on page 2).

The following requirements have been set to guide the church in the decision of who will receive these College Fund Awards. The student:

1. Must be:
  - A. A Member/Affiliate Member, or a child/grandchild of a Member/Affiliate Member of First Presbyterian Church; **OR**
  - B. An Employee or a child/grandchild of an Employee of First Presbyterian Church, subject to the following.
    - i. Employees did not become eligible until they were added to the College Fund Awards Program in 2023.
    - ii. The employee must be past their probationary period at FPC.
    - iii. If the employee is a full-time high school student, their length of employment will determine the number of years of eligibility for future college fund awards, not to exceed four awards. As an example, if the employee started working at FPC prior to January of their sophomore year of high school and continued working at FPC until high school graduation, they would be eligible to apply for three college awards, as long as they meet the other criteria, as explained below.
2. Should demonstrate active participation in a church, the community, and/or school; exhibit leadership qualities and good citizenship.
3. Must be accepted or enrolled at an accredited undergraduate level college, university, or school of higher education. If an award is made and the student decides not to attend school, the award must be returned to First Presbyterian Church.
4. Must complete an application, include a recent photo (preferably a headshot) and write a brief narrative essay answering the 6 questions on the application, page 2. These are to be returned to the church office by Monday, August 4, 2025, addressed as follows:

Via mail: College Fund Awards Program First Presbyterian Church 305 North Main Street Waynesville, NC 28786	<b>OR</b>	Via electronic transmission: <a href="mailto:Office@fpcwaynesville.org">Office@fpcwaynesville.org</a>
---	-----------	--
5. Must provide a mobile number and email on the application which will allow us to contact you in mid-August with status of your award. Before any award is issued, contact information will be confirmed.

**Deadlines for 2025 - Application receipt: August 4; Awards decisions: August 19**

Questions may be directed to Melonie Gross or Nancy Thompson via the church office (828-456-3243).

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WAYNESVILLE, NC COLLEGE FUND AWARDS PROGRAM APPLICATION**  
(Complete and return this page, *along with your essay and photo*, by Monday, August 4, 2025. Please print legibly.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**If any of the above will be different after August 19, 2025:**

Address while in school: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE: ☐ I am a Member or ☐ Affiliate Member of the church.

☐ I am a child or ☐ grandchild of a Member/Affiliate Member of the church.

Name of Member/Affiliate Member: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am an employee of the church. Approximate start date: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am a child or ☐ grandchild of an employee of the church.

Name of employee: \_\_\_\_\_

**Academics:**

Current High School or College: \_\_\_\_\_

If a high school student, name of college/university you plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_

Intended/Current Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet of paper, please submit a 400-500-word narrative essay which answers the following questions from the applicable column: (If a previous award recipient, please do not cut and paste from your previous application(s).)

<b>FIRST TIME APPLICANT:</b>
What are your goals for your education and a profession after graduation?
Why have you selected your college/university and your planned field of study?
What job/jobs have you held in the past 12 months? What were your responsibilities?
What school activities have you been involved in and why did you select them?
What church and/or community activities have you participated in and what have you gained from these activities? (The church does not have to be Presbyterian.)
What other information about you would you like for the awards selection team to know?

<b>PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENT:</b>
Have your goals and/or planned profession changed since your last application? If so, how? If you are a senior, what are your plans after graduation?
How is your college/university education meeting your expectations? What has been the most pivotal experience at college in the past school year and why?
What job/jobs have you held in the past 12 months? What were your responsibilities?
What school activities have you been involved in the past school year and why did you select them?
What church and/or community activities have you participated in during the past 12 months and what have you gained from these activities? (The church does not have to be Presbyterian.)
What other information about you would you like for the awards selection team to know?

I understand and agree that I meet the requirements as listed on page 1 to be considered for an award from the First Presbyterian College Fund Awards Program. I further agree that if I decide not to attend college or university, I will return the award to First Presbyterian Church. If chosen, I also agree to my photo and brief biographical information being shared with the congregation of First Presbyterian Church.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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