

2026 Youth Serve Montana Scholarship

Reach Higher Montana

Youth Serve Montana Scholarship Description

The Youth Serve Montana Scholarship was created to promote volunteerism among high school students, encourage young leaders to further their learning and provide tuition assistance for Montana students who wish to attend a participating Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement affiliate college in-state. This year \$135,000 in scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors!

Up to 90 seniors will receive scholarships for completing volunteer service hours within the 12 months preceding their application submission. Students who have completed 100 hours or more are eligible for a \$1,500 scholarship.

Scholarship funds have been made available through support from Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement, a network of Montana campuses committed to community volunteerism; Reach Higher Montana, a nonprofit dedicated to helping students pursue and fund postsecondary education; and the Governor's Office of Community Service, the state agency tasked with expanding and promoting service in Montana. The Governor's Office of Community Service administers the scholarships.

General Guidelines

- Applicant must plan to attend one of the Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement-affiliated institutions listed HERE. <https://mtengage.org/>
- Applicant must have completed at least 100 hours of volunteer service within 12 months. 12 months is defined as the period 12 months before the date of application.
- Service that is compensated may not be used for this application's service hours.
- Scholarship funds must be used for the 2026-2027 academic year at a Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement member institution.
- Students must demonstrate financial need by completing a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). FAFSA completion will be verified in the scholarship review process.
- Applicant must submit a completed application to the Governor's Office of Community Service by **February 2, 2026**.

Please refer to the Youth Serve Montana Scholarship [FAQs](#) if you have questions about any of these items or those included in the application process.



Student Information

Please be sure this section is complete. If information is missing, or if the student is not of high school senior status the form will not be accepted. If a section does not apply to you, please enter N/A for your response.

Project Name*

Please enter YSM 26 followed by your last name in this box (ex: YSM 26 Smith)

Character Limit: 100

Applicant First Name*

Character Limit: 250

Applicant Last Name*

Character Limit: 250

Applicant Mailing Address*

Character Limit: 100

Applicant City*

Character Limit: 50

Applicant Zipcode*

Character Limit: 5

Applicant Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy format)*

Character Limit: 50

Applicant's Email address*

NOTE: Please **DO NOT** use your high school email. Please provide a personal email. If you do not have a personal email, use a parent/guardian email or your school email if no other options exist.

Character Limit: 254

Phone Number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)*

Character Limit: 12

High School Name*

Character Limit: 50

High School Address*

Character Limit: 250

High School Counselor Name*

Character Limit: 50

High School Counselor Phone Number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)*

Character Limit: 12

High School Counselor Email*

Character Limit: 254

Homeschool Students ONLY

Please provide your County Superintendent's name and email.

Character Limit: 250

College or University Attending***Choices**

Aaniih Nakoda College
Blackfeet Community College
Carroll College
Chief Dull Knife College
Dawson Community College
Flathead Valley Community College
Fort Peck Community College
Great Falls College-MSU
Helena College-UM
Little Big Horn College
Miles Community College
Montana State University-Bozeman
Montana Technological University
MSU Billings
MSU Northern
Salish Kootenai College

The University of Montana
The University of Montana-Western

Volunteer Service Tracking

Using the below table, please provide a list of your volunteer service experience, totaling a minimum of 100 hours, within the last 12 months. The past 12 months are defined as the 12 months prior to the date of application. If you run out of room in the table, please use the text box below it to add any additional items you want to share

Please remember the following items can not be used in your service opportunities.

Prohibited scholarship program activities

- Efforts to influence policy and legislation;
- Participating in, or endorsing events or activities that are likely to include advocacy for or against political parties, platforms, candidates, or elected officials;
- Engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that conducts worship services, construction, operating, or maintaining facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, or engaging in any form of religious proselytization.

Community Service Hours Completed

Where did you volunteer?	Hours Served	Describe your volunteer service.	Who benefitted from your service	Contact name and phone number for verification

Additional Volunteer Hours

Use this space only if you needed more space in the table above.

Character Limit: 1500

Narrative Questions

Motivation*

In 500 words or less, please tell us what motivates you to volunteer. How do you plan to continue your commitment to serve in the future?

Character Limit: 10000

Volunteer Impact*

In 500 words or less, please tell us how your volunteer work positively impacted the community around you and how your service experience impacted you personally. Please reference the service activities you listed above.

Character Limit: 10000

Optional Demographics/Permissions

The following questions are being asked for statistical purposes only. *You do not have to answer them.* If you prefer not to answer them, please move on to the last section of the application and complete the 'Application Verification' questions.

Updates

"I would like to receive electronic updates from the Governor's Office of Community Service, Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement, and Reach Higher Montana about future service and training opportunities."

Choices

Yes

No

First-Generation College Student

"I am the first member of my family attending a college or university."

Choices

Yes

No

Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

Choices

Yes

No

Race

Choices

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

White

Tribal Affiliation

If you answered American Indian or Alaskan Native above, please specify which tribe(s) you have an affiliation with.

Character Limit: 250

Application Verification

Graduation Awards Ceremony*

To ensure a certificate is mailed in time for your senior awards ceremony, please provide the date of your school's award ceremony. If your school does not hold an awards ceremony, please list the date of your school's graduation.

Character Limit: 10

Required Signature(s)*

In order for the Youth Serve Montana scholarship to be verified as true and correct, and to authorize the Governor's Office of Community Service, Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement, and Reach Higher Montana to use your name, photo, and school for purposes of news, publicity, and publication, the signature page found [HERE](#) must be completed by the applicant and his/her parent/guardian if under the age of 18 and uploaded below.

File Size Limit: 5 MB