



Award for Academic Excellence 2026

Yakima Federal has established this award for the purpose of recognizing high academic achievers graduating from high school and a resident in Benton, Franklin, Kittitas or Yakima County. It is for those graduates who are accepted by and enrolled in an accredited college, university, community college, or technical school during this year's fall semester. Up to eighty (80) Scholarships in the amount \$2,500 each may be awarded this year.

Academic Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

1. Applicant must be a senior level student graduating from high school and a resident in Benton, Franklin, Kittitas, or Yakima County. **No more than two recipients from a school will be awarded scholarships.**
2. The scholarship is to be used at a post-high school accredited institution beginning in fall 2026. Failure to enroll will result in withdrawal of the scholarship award. The award will be made payable to the college and sent to the applicant upon Yakima Federal receiving proof of acceptance.
3. Scholarships will be awarded based on the following criteria:
 - Top ten percent of graduating class;
 - Community Service and Leadership activity within and outside the school environment;
 - One-page Letter of Motivation outlining your future plans, school and life experiences, including any challenges faced and overcome, the impact of receiving an award plus any additional information to support your selection for an award;
 - Two letters of recommendation;
 - Statement signed by school official verifying top ten percent status. (Not required for Home Schooled students).

Instructions for Completing and Submitting the Application:

1. Fully complete and submit application and required one-page Letter of Motivation
2. Submit most recent transcript with cumulative grade point average
3. Submit two (2) letters of recommendation as follows:
 - a. One letter from a school teacher, counselor or administrator. (If student is home schooled a letter of academic reference will be accepted.)
 - b. One letter from a community member not related to the applicant.
4. Application and required documents can be submitted online at: YakimaFed.com/scholarship or mailed to Yakima Federal, Attn: Erin Thierolf, P. O. Box 1526, Yakima WA 98907.

Deadline for Submission is Monday, April 20, 2026. Applications postmarked or submitted after April 20 will not be considered. **No more than two recipients from a school will be awarded scholarships.** In awarding of Scholarship the decision of the Scholarship Committee will be final. Award winners will be notified by email by June 1, 2026. Any questions regarding the application process can be emailed to: erin.thierolf@yakimafed.com



Award for Academic Excellence 2026

NAME: _____ E-MAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____ GRADUATION DATE: _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY YOU PLAN TO ATTEND: _____

CRITERIA 1: SERVICE/LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Please List: School Honors, School Activities, Sports, and Leadership Activities

School Year	Honors, Sports, School Activities & Leadership Roles	Office Held	Est. hours per year
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

CRITERIA 2: SERVICE/LEADERSHIP OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Please list Community Activities, which can include participation in community groups, church activities; non-school sports, work activities, or other community activities, and any leadership roles you've held in those activities.

School Year	Community Activities & Leadership Roles	Office Held	Est. hours per year
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

CRITERIA 3: SCHOLASTIC PERFORMANCE

GPA: _____

HONORS/AP/Running Start COURSES TAKEN: _____

Signature of School Official (REQUIRED): _____

- By signing you are verifying student is in the top ten percent of their graduating class.

CRITERIA 4: One-Page Letter of Motivation

Please attach a one-page Letter of Motivation outlining your future plans, school and life experiences, including any challenges faced and overcome, the impact of receiving an award plus any additional information to support your selection for an award.

Before you submit your application, please make sure that the following items are included:

- Completed Yakima Federal Award for Academic Excellence Application with **REQUIRED** signatures
- One-Page Letter of Motivation
- High school transcript
- One Letter of Recommendation from a school teacher, counselor or administrator
- One Letter of Recommendation from a community member

REMEMBER: If mailing, completed applications and supporting documentation must be postmarked by Monday, April 20, 2026.

How did you hear about Yakima Federal's scholarship?

- A) YakimaFed.com
- B) Social Media
- C) TV
- D) Radio
- E) Newspaper/ Print
- F) Email
- G) Family/ Friend
- H) School Advisor
- I) Other: _____

Applicant's Signature (REQUIRED): _____ **Date:** _____

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