



William J. Wagner Memorial Scholarship Program 2024 Scholarship Application Ware Junior/Senior High School

The Chicopee Savings Bank Charitable Foundation is pleased to invite the graduating class of Ware Junior/Senior High School to participate in the Foundation's annual **William J. Wagner Memorial Scholarship Program**. William Wagner served as the Foundation's founding President and Board Chair since the Foundation's inception in 2006 until his passing in December 2021. One applicant from Ware Junior/Senior High School will be selected to receive a \$3,000 scholarship award!

Eligibility Requirements

- Residency:** All applicants must be a graduating senior of the class of 2024 from Ware Junior/Senior High School and a resident of Ware, Massachusetts.
- Academics:** All applicants must have a minimum 3.0 GPA and must demonstrate a strong academic standing and financial need. Additionally, volunteer performance in the community, participation in school activities, athletics and other activities are taken into consideration. Please be descriptive in your application.
- College:** All applicants must be entering into a degree program at an accredited college, university or technical school during the year 2024. Applicants may be full-time or part-time students with a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester.

Application Availability and Submission Requirements

- Availability:** Applications must be obtained through your high school's guidance department and/or scholarship application depository.
- Application Submission:** Your application must consist of all of the following components: (1) A completed 2024 Scholarship Application containing your detailed and legible responses; and the signatures of the applicant, the applicant's parent and/or guardian, and your Guidance Department; (2) a copy of the student's most recent reporting period high school transcript through March 2024 [NOTE: Transcripts that do not include a senior year grading period will be disqualified]; and (3) Two signed letters of recommendation.
- Please refer to the attached **"What Do Our Judges Consider When Reviewing Scholarship Applications"** for some helpful information to complete your application!
- Application Deadline:** ***Applicants must submit their completed application directly to their School's Guidance Department prior to April 1, 2024. The Chicopee Savings Bank Charitable Foundation does not accept applications directly from students.*** Your Guidance Department has been instructed to submit your school's applications to the Foundation for consideration no later than April 5, 2024.

Scholarship Announcements and Awards

- Scholarship winners will be announced by the Foundation during the month of May 2024. The Foundation will notify the school's Guidance Department as well as the selected applicant via email.
- Awards will be paid directly to the applicant's college in August. Prior to payment, the applicant must provide the Foundation with their College ID and payment address.
- The Foundation will execute a press release to local new publications by end of August announcing all scholarship winners.



William J. Wagner Memorial Scholarship 2024 Application – Part 1

All information requested within this application is required.
Please know that missing or invalid information may result in your application being disqualified for consideration.

Student			
Last Name		First	M.I. Date
Street Address			Apartment/Unit #
City	State	Zip	Date of Birth
Phone		Applicant E-mail Address (required):	
High School			
High School		Course of Study:	
Class Ranking: _____ out of _____ If ranked first in class, were you selected as class valedictorian? _____			GPA: _____
College			
What college/university do you plan to attend?		<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part Time <input type="checkbox"/> Online Only	Declared Major/Course of Study:
Have you been accepted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		College ID #: _____	
Will you be residing on campus? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		College Name: _____	
		College Payment Address: _____	
What Are Your Planned College Campus Activities:			
Financial Need			
Annual W2 Income of Mother: \$ _____		Mother's Occupation: _____	
Annual W2 Income of Father: \$ _____		Father's Occupation: _____	
Annual W2 Income of Guardian: \$ _____		Guardian's Occupation: _____	
Who is responsible for your college expenses?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Myself			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____			
Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s):			
Excluding this applicant, how many dependent children are you currently paying for their college expense? _____			
Including this applicant, how many children are currently in your household? _____			
Applicant: Do you currently have any dependents? _____			



William J. Wagner Memorial Scholarship 2024 Application – Part 2

Tell Us About Yourself

Your thoughtful and descriptive responses to each of the six questions below must be attached to your application and must be legible. Typewritten responses are preferred. In addition to your detailed responses, you may attach an academic resume.

1. **School and Extracurricular Activities:** Please provide details about your school and extracurricular activities. These can include your involvement in student government, sports teams, band, choir, theater, school newspaper or yearbook, other school clubs, tutoring, competitive academics such as math league or schools match wits, honors societies, etc. Be sure to state if you held positions such as secretary, treasurer, president, team captain, etc. Tell us about any special recognitions or awards. Most important tell us why you chose to participate and what you gained or learned from these experiences
2. **Community Volunteer Activities:** Please provide details about your community volunteer activities including the length of time you volunteered for the cause/s. Most important, tell us about your involvement, what inspired you to volunteer, and what you gained or learned from your community volunteer experiences. Also tell us about any special recognitions or awards.
3. **Employment:** Tell us about any paying jobs you have held while in high school. Please let us know whether you held these jobs during the school year or as seasonal summer jobs. On average, how many hours per week did you work during the school year? What have you gained or learned from your employment experiences?
4. **Career Goal:** Please describe in detail your career goals after college and why you have chosen this path.
5. **Other Interests:** Please tell us about any other interests that are important to you.
6. **Scholarship:** What would winning this scholarship mean to you?

Submission Instructions

- **Letters of Recommendation:** Attach two (2) letters of recommendation. One must be from a teacher and or guidance counselor and the other must be from a representative of your extracurricular, community service or employment activities. They cannot be from a family member.
- **Application Deadline:** Submit your completed application to your school's Guidance Department **prior to April 1, 2024.**
- **Applicant Checklist:**
 - ☐ I have met the residency requirement
 - ☐ I have met the academic requirement.
 - ☐ I have completed the financial need section, including parent and/or guardian's annual income.
 - ☐ I have attached my descriptive and legible responses to the six questions above.
 - ☐ If you have been accepted to the college of your choice, please attached a copy of your college acceptance letter.
 - ☐ I have attached two (2) signed recommendation letters meeting the criteria stated above.
 - ☐ Application Signed by: ____ Applicant; ____ Parent/Guardian; ____ Guidance Department
 - ☐ Application provided to School Guidance Department Scholarship Coordinator prior to April 1, 2024.
- **Guidance Department Checklist:**
 - ☐ I reviewed the application and confirm its completeness.
 - ☐ I have signed and attached the applicant's School Transcripts through March 2023.

- **Signature Requirements and Release Authorization**

By signature of the Applicant and/or Applicant's Parent or Guardian below, authorization is hereby provided to the Chicopee Savings Bank Charitable Foundation to review copies of the Applicant's high school transcripts for purposes of academic evaluation. All information provided in relation to this Application is accurate, complete, and true. The Applicant understands that failure to attend College within six months of receiving an award or failure to register for the number of credits anticipated, may subject the scholarship award to rescission. Permission is hereby expressly granted to the Chicopee Savings Bank Charitable Foundation to use the Applicant's name, photo, and/or likeness, if chosen as a scholarship award winner, for publicity purposes on social media and press releases to local media news outlets and/or publications.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Guidance Dept. Signature: _____

Date: _____



CHICOPEE SAVINGS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

What do our Judges Consider when Reviewing Scholarship Candidates?

It's not an easy job being a scholarship judge. Deciding who will receive an award is a tough decision. By knowing what's on the minds of our scholarship judges, you'll have a better chance at being selected.



- ✦ Strong Academics
- ✦ Community Service
- ✦ Work Experience/Ethics
- ✦ Extra-Curricular Activities
- ✦ Leadership Roles
- ✦ Financial Need

✂ The First Cut – Eligibility and School Guidance Review

Before your application reaches our judges, it is reviewed by your high school guidance department to ensure you meet our Foundation's eligibility requirements. Your high school is allowed to send us just **five (5)** qualified applications! Many applications don't get past this quick but important first stage. Give your application one last review to be sure yours makes it through.

- ✦ Do you pass our Residency, Academics and College Requirements?
- ✦ Is your application neat and legible? An application with coffee stains or messy handwriting won't make the cut.
- ✦ Are all of the required documents included? Be sure you're not leaving out important references and your high school transcripts.
- ✦ Are all of the questions answered? Scan your application to see if you've left anything out.

✂ The Second Cut – Why Pick Me? Selling Yourself to Our Judges!

You've made it through the first cut and are on to the review of our judges. Our judges will then separate the "OKs" from "GREATs!" The applications that make it through are those that have thorough and well-thought-out responses. Make sure your responses are complete and answer the question. It's very important that your grammar and spelling are correct.

Our application provides you with an opportunity to tell your story. Have you been descriptive and thorough in your answers? What will our judges learn about you from your activities and your career goals that makes you stand out from the other applicants? Ask yourself, "Why Pick Me?"

☑ The Final Decision – Your Achievements and Personal Story Were Compelling!

This is the most difficult part of the process for our judges. They've now narrowed the field down to a few highly qualified students. Now they must examine and compare every detail of the application.

- ✦ **Academics**—It's important to have a competitive GPA. However, we also consider how challenging your course load was and take into consideration how involved you were in other school/community activities.
- ✦ **Leadership**—Our judges will examine all your activities and your leadership positions.
- ✦ **Service**—We'll also examine your volunteer efforts. How involved you were and how often. Did you go above and beyond the required service job.
- ✦ **Creativity**—You can show your creative side if you play an instrument, write stories, are involved in the arts. Demonstrate your ability by letting the judges know if you've won any awards.
- ✦ **Special circumstances**—If you've overcome any obstacles to achieve your goals, let our judges know, if you're comfortable sharing. Let them know how you achieved all that you've done, in spite of the roadblocks you've encountered.
- ✦ **Financial Need**—Our judges will take into consideration your and/or your guardian's ability to pay for college expenses.