

Educational Opportunity Foundation of the Black Forest (EOF)

Application for Academic or Vocational Scholarship 2026

Thank you for applying for our scholarship. Below is a list of criteria that must be met in order for your application to be considered. Please initial at the bottom of each page to accept these guidelines.

Section 1: Application Instructions

1. Scholarships will be awarded for either vocational or academic pursuits.
2. Candidates must be a graduating high school senior (December 2025 or May/June 2026 graduation dates). Note, 5-year high school students or gap year applicants will *not* be considered for this scholarship.
3. The EOF Board of Directors will consider the following criteria for the selection of scholarship recipients:
 - a. Financial need
 - b. Student character
 - c. Community service, especially in the Black Forest community
 - d. Student goals
 - e. Academic performance (including course work and standardized test scores)
 - f. Extracurricular activities
4. Applicants must reside in Black Forest as determined by the following boundary lines (reference the EOF website):
 - a. The north boundary is County Line Road of El Paso County and Douglas County.
 - b. The west boundary begins at the intersection of the north boundary and Highway 83. It continues south through the intersection of Powers Boulevard and Highway 83 southward to the intersection of Powers to Old Ranch Road.
 - c. The southern boundary continuing eastward along Old Ranch Road to Black Forest Road (including the line through private property where Old Ranch Road is interrupted). It curves southward to follow Black Forest Road to Woodman Road. The line continues east on Woodman to Meridian Road.
 - d. The eastern boundary is Meridian Road northward to County Line Road.
 - e. The area includes all of the 80908 zip code and sections of the 80106 zip code. Please check the map on our website to confirm.
5. The following information **MUST** be complete and uploaded to the Black Forest EOF website, together in one package, by the scholarship deadline (February 16, 2026 no later than 11:59pm Mountain Standard time).
 - a. A complete and signed application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
 - b. A 2"x 3" head and shoulders photograph of the applicant.
 - c. Two (2) letters of recommendation, one of which **MUST** be from a teacher who can attest to your academic performance. A second letter **MUST** be from a professional mentor or supervisor who can attest to your work, volunteer, or extracurricular activities. Do not forget to request these letters in advance of the deadline, as they must be included with your application package. Only two letters of recommendation please. ****NOTE - No letters from applicant's parents or relatives will be accepted.**
 - d. An official high school transcript or GED certificate.
 - e. Your ACT and/or SAT scores.
 - f. Your essay (academic scholarship application) or your essay/project (vocational application). See application for more information.
 - g. A release for name and/or image of applicant used for website, media, or promotional purposes.

The scholarship application upload deadline with all components of your package from section 5(a-g) above is due no later than Monday, February 16 at 11:59pm Mountain Standard time. ****NOTE – only complete application packages received by this date will move on to the interview phase.**

_____ *Applicant Initials*

Section 2: Student Requirements

1. Each applicant selected for the interview phase is expected to attend an in-person interview session on either Tuesday, February 24 or Thursday, February 26, 2026. The interview time and date will be coordinated between applicant and EOF's Board Secretary. We try to be flexible on the times of these interviews, but applicants should make themselves available for this part of the process. Business attire is recommended.
2. Awardees are required to attend the Scholarship Awards Banquet at a TBD date in April, 2026. See website for updates.
 - a. Failure to RSVP for the interview, banquet or other deadline dates listed below will result in forfeiture of the scholarship. (See important dates below).
 - b. Scholarship recipients must be enrolled in an educational/vocational institution by October 1, 2026.
 - c. Scholarship funds must be requested by October 31, 2026. Funds will only be sent by EOF directly to the institution (trade/vocational school or college/university), and only to be used for tuition, fees or required course books and materials.
3. Scholarships not claimed by the requested deadlines will be forfeited by applicant.
4. Review the EOF website for additional information.

_____ *Applicant Initials*

Applicant Information

Name:

Date of Birth:

Home Address:

How many years have you lived in Black Forest?

Phone # (Cell) (Home)

Student email address:

Parents' full names:

Parents' email address:

Father's occupation:

Mother's occupation:

Total # of siblings: (Do not count yourself)

of additional siblings in college/trade school in 2026-2027 year: (Do not count yourself)

Family AGI per IRS records for 2024 calendar year: *Circle one* <\$125K/yr OR >\$125K/yr

Academic Information

*****To be considered, a copy of your transcript AND SAT/ACT scores MUST be included with application.***

High School: (Specify if other e.g. Homeschool, GED)

Graduation date and year: (Month, Year)

Highest one-time SAT and/or ACT score and date taken: (Do not superscore)

Cumulative Unweighted GPA: **Weighted GPA:**

List Academic Activities, Leadership, Honors, and Years: (e.g. National Honor Society, President – 12th grade; National Merit Finalist – 12th grade; Honor Roll – 9-12th grades; Colorado Science Fair Chemistry Division Champion – 11th grade)

_____ *Applicant Initials*

Extracurricular Information

List Extracurricular Activities, Leadership, and Years: (e.g. Varsity Football 10-12th grades, Captain 12th grade; Colorado Springs Youth Choir 10-12th grades, Section Leader 12th grade; Student Body Treasurer 12th grade; CO Girls' State, Lt. Governor 11th grade; Debate team 9-12th grades)

List Extracurricular Honors and Year of Award: (e.g. CO All-State Choir - 11th grade; Varsity XC MVP - 12th grade; Varsity Lacrosse All Conference – 11th grade; Rotary Champions of Pikes Peak Female Swimming Medallion winner – 11th grade; CO Debate Champs 3rd place Extemp - 11th grade)

Community Service Philanthropic Activities, Leadership, and Years – include organization, describe activity, and include total number of personal hours volunteered over the past 4 years. Be sure to include any Black Forest specific volunteer activity if applicable. (e.g. Black Forest ABC Church, volunteer with parking lot expansion and landscape improvement, babysit for parents' retreat once per weeknight for 8 weeks, visit and sing at nursing home 3 times, Youth Group Leader, 60 hours)

List any employment held during high school years – include company, location, title, dates, and number of hours per week: (e.g. Subway Interquest, CSprings, Sandwich Creator, June-July 2024, 20 hours/week; YMCA Briargate, CSprings, Front Desk Clerk, September 2024-May 2025, 12 hours/week)

_____ *Applicant Initials*

Post Secondary Education

I am seeking a(n) _____ education – Vocational *or* Academic (B.S., B.A., A.A.)

College decision finalized? Y or N _____ If Y, what institution? _____

Schools applied:

Schools accepted:

Schools awaiting decision:

Financial assistance awarded directly from universities - indicate type and amount, academic merit, athletic, or need based: (e.g. CU Boulder football scholarship, 1 year tuition and housing; CSU need based award, 4 years ½ tuition and housing; Western Colorado merit award, 2 years tuition only)

Additional scholarships applied to, awarded or pending outcome: Please indicate type of scholarship already received and amount (e.g. athletic, merit, need, etc.), and finalist standing if still pending. (e.g. Boettcher Finalist – merit award, in final interview process; Daniel's Fund Finalist – merit & need award, in final interview process; Notre Dame Navy ROTC Scholarship – awarded 3 years tuition and book stipend; John Smith Memorial Soccer Scholarship – athletic & merit award \$1,000)

Have you applied for any other financial assistance? If yes, where and what?

Additional Information

Please provide any additional information that you would like the EOF Board to consider while reading this application. Feel free to list unique hobbies, unusual circumstances, hardships, etc.

_____ *Applicant Initials*

Essay/Project

Academic applicants will provide a 500-word essay titled, "My Career Goal." Diagrams, charts, and photos may be included. The essay should be typed in 12-point font and double-spaced.

Vocational applicants will provide either an essay as described above, or include a presentation that demonstrates your interest and talent in an applicable vocational field. Examples may include a summarization of your internship in a forest fire mitigation program, a creative art portfolio, descriptions and renderings of original industrial designs, an automobile engine rebuilding project, an original fashion design portfolio, an electrical design of a proposed robot, or an original designed computer application, and many more ideas. You are encouraged to bring examples of your work to your interview.

Letters of Recommendation

Two letters of recommendation as noted in Scholarship Instructions must be included and uploaded with your application and received no later than February 16, 2026 at 11:59pm Mountain Standard time.

Signature and Acknowledgement

The information contained in this application is true and factual. I understand that to receive a scholarship, I must be enrolled in an educational/vocational institution by October 1, 2026.

Student applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

If student applicant is under 18, a parent/guardian name and signature is also required.

Parent/guardian printed name: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Media Release Statement

I, the undersigned, do hereby grant permission to the Black Forest Educational Opportunity Foundation (BFEOF) to use the name and/or image of _____. Such use may include the display, distribution, publication, transmission, or otherwise use of name, photographs, and images for use in materials that include, but may not be limited to, materials such as brochures, newsletters, videos, and digital images such as those on the BFEOF Website (www.blackforesteof.com), and/or publication in newspapers. I give unrestricted permission for the above-named individual's name and/or image to be used in print, video, and digital media. I agree that above-named individual's name and/or image may be used by BFEOF for a variety of purposes and that the name and/or images may be used without further notifying me. I do understand that above named individual's first and last name and school information may be used in conjunction with their photo or digital image.

Student applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

If student applicant is under 18, a parent/guardian name and signature is also required.

Parent/guardian printed name: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Please make a copy of this application for your own records.

_____ *Applicant Initials*