

## 2026-2027 Incoming/Transfer Student Scholarship Application

*For direct from high school students and college transfer students beginning their first semester at Washburn University in Fall 2026.*

### Aleshire Center Scholarship Eligibility Criteria

- Direct from high school students must have a GPA at least 2.75 on 4.0 scale.
- College transfer students must have a cumulative college GPA of 2.75.

### Scholarship Participation Requirements

- Accepting a scholarship from the Aleshire Center for Leadership & Community Engagement is more than just an award-based scholarship. Annual renewal of the scholarship is contingent upon maintaining a GPA requirement, making appropriate annual progress toward a minor or certificate in Leadership Studies or Community Studies, and participating in one of the core co-curricular programs, Leaders of Tomorrow or Bonner Leaders.

### Application Timeline

- February 28, 2026 – Applications Due
- March 27, 2026 – Scholarship Interview Day (in person or online), must attend for scholarship consideration.
- April 22, 2026 – Scholarship Recipients Notified



**Application Submission  
Deadline EXTENDED to  
March 9, 2026**

### Autobiographical Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI Date of Birth

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and street City State Zip code

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Intended Minor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Educational Information

High School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name City, State

Have you earned college-level credit? Yes No Credit Hours earned: \_\_\_\_\_

**College Education:** *List all schools attended. Attach typed additional pages if necessary.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
School name Dates of attendance (month/year) Hours completed

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Degree received Date of Degree

## Supplemental Information

*All items must be received to complete your application and be considered for a scholarship.  
Incomplete applications will not be considered.*

**1. Essay** – Submit a typed essay responding to **ONE of the Essay Options** below. Thoroughly and well-written responses are more important than length of responses (approximately 300 words). Provide support of your ideas by using personal examples throughout the essay.

**Essay Option 1:** Explain a defining moment in your life. Defining moments can be positive or negative, but help you rethink your values, future actions and your confidence. After explaining the defining moment, please share how this moment shaped your future behaviors.

**Essay Option 2:** Explain what responsibility you believe leaders have to the greater community. Discuss any community involvement you have and how you demonstrated leadership through those experiences.

**Essay Option 3:** Reflect on a meaningful leadership experience you've had. Describe the challenges you faced, the actions you took, and the outcomes of your leadership. How did this experience influence your understanding of effective leadership and how will you apply these lessons in future leadership roles.?

**2. Resume** – your resume should highlight the following areas:

\* Leadership Roles   \* Honors & Awards Received   \* Community Engagement & Service   \* Work Experience

*Remember to include organizational activities, leadership positions, events you participated in etc. If you don't write it down, we won't know about it.*

**3. One letter of Recommendation** – The letter of recommendation should be a direct observation of leadership you have shown and include any community engagement or service activities. It should be forwarded to the Aleshire Center prior to or postmarked by February 28, 2026.

## Information on How to Submit

Please submit the following documents to the **Aleshire Center for Leadership & Community Engagement**, by email to [aleshirecenter@washburn.edu](mailto:aleshirecenter@washburn.edu) (pdf format) or mail postmarked on or before **February 28, 2026**, to guarantee review of your application.

1. Scholarship Application
2. Personal Resume highlighting your leadership and community engagement accomplishments
3. Typed essay answering one of the three questions
4. One letter of recommendation

*Applications and supporting documents postmarked later than **February 28, 2026**, cannot be guaranteed a review. Even if we can review late submissions, they will almost certainly be at a competitive disadvantage in the review process.*

### Email:

aleshirecenter@washburn.edu

### Mailing Address:

Washburn University  
Aleshire Center for Leadership & Community Engagement  
1700 College Ave, Plass Learning Resources Center, Room 217  
Topeka, KS 66621

Washburn University [prohibits discrimination](#) on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, veteran status, or marital or parental status. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: **Dr. Michelle White-Godinnet**, Equal Opportunity Director/Title IX Coordinator, [eodirector@washburn.edu](mailto:eodirector@washburn.edu), 785.670.1509, Washburn University, 1700 SW College Ave, Topeka, KS 66621.