

Dear Counselor,

As CEO of East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless, I am pleased to announce the continuation of our Scholarship Program for eligible high school seniors. The Appalachian Wireless Scholarship Program was created to help ease the financial burden of higher education for our customers and their families. As such, eligibility is limited to students who are either Appalachian Wireless customers themselves or whose parent or guardian has been a customer for at least the past 12 months.

This year, the Scholarship Program will award a total of \$10,000 to graduating seniors residing in and attending high school within the counties in our home service area. These counties include:

Kentucky: Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Elliott, Estill, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Lawrence, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Martin, Magoffin, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Whitley, and Wolfe.

Virginia: Buchanan and Dickenson.

Eight seniors will each receive a one-time scholarship of \$1,000, and the highest overall scoring recipient will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. These funds can be applied toward higher education-related expenses, such as tuition, books, housing, or meal plans.

Scholarships will be award based on the following criteria:

- Financial Need
- Academic Performance
- School and Community Involvement
- Personal Essays
- Letters of Recommendation

Enclosed you will find an application form that may be reproduced and distributed to eligible graduating seniors who plan to pursue higher education. Additionally, the application can be downloaded from our website at www.appalachianwireless.com.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than March 13, 2026.

An independent panel will review all submitted materials, and we will notify you if one of your students is selected as a scholarship recipient. Please note that this announcement must remain confidential until a representative from Appalachian Wireless presents the scholarship to the recipient. Recipients will be contacted directly by Appalachian Wireless.

We are proud to invest in the future of high school seniors across our region and hope these scholarships will help students achieve their academic and life goals.

If you have any questions about the Scholarship Program, please contact Rachel Holt, Marketing Associate, at 800-438-2355, ext. 1147.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Johnson, CEO
Appalachian Wireless



2026 Appalachian Wireless Scholarship Information

Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicant must live and attend high school within the Appalachian Wireless home coverage area (Kentucky: Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Elliott, Estill, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Martin, Magoffin, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Whitley, and Wolfe Counties; Virginia: Buchanan and Dickenson Counties).
2. Applicant's parent or legal guardian must be a current Appalachian Wireless customer who has received service for a minimum of 12 months and is in good payment standing.
3. Applicant must be a senior graduating from high school in the Spring of 2026 and must enroll full time in a post-secondary or higher education institution (two or four-year college/university, business school, or vocational-technical school/institute) in the Fall of 2026.
4. Applicant cannot be an employee or an immediate family member of individuals who are employed with East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless, its affiliates¹, or an Appalachian Wireless Authorized Dealer.
5. Applicant must have at least a 2.5 GPA (4.0 scale) at the time of application.

Selection Criteria

- Financial Need – 40%
- Academic Achievement – 30%
- School/Community Involvement – 20%
- Personal Essay/Letters of Recommendation – 10%

Selection Process

1. A scholarship committee will review all applications and select nine (9) recipients: eight (8) students will receive \$1,000 scholarships, and one (1) student will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. The committee's decisions are final. All submitted applications become the property of Appalachian Wireless and will not be returned.
2. Your Guidance Counselor will be notified in May if a student from your school is selected. All scholarship recipients will be contacted directly by Appalachian Wireless and recognized at a scholarship presentation.

Scholarship Payment

1. All scholarship funds will be made payable to the winning applicants.
2. The scholarship can be applied to tuition, housing, books, or other higher education-related fees.

Guidelines

1. Complete the attached two-page application in its entirety and mail to: **Appalachian Wireless, c/o Marketing Associate Rachel Holt, 101 Technology Trail, Ivel, KY 41642**
2. All completed applications must be postmarked and mailed no later than March 13, 2026.
3. The following items MUST be included with the application to be considered complete:
 - **High school transcript** - This must be an official document and should include a recent report of your senior year as well as your GPA and ACT or SAT scores (if taken).
 - **Three letters of recommendation** - Two letters must be from a school official/teacher, and one must be from a member of the community or a non-relative who knows you well. Letters should address your school and community involvement, personal characteristics, and/or other factors supporting your candidacy. All letters must be typed.
 - **Essay** - Write a typed, double-spaced essay (300-500 words) on the following topic: *Appalachian Wireless was built by and for the people of this region, keeping our mountains connected. Describe how growing up in Appalachia has shaped who you are and how you plan to use your education to give back to your community and strengthen the future of Eastern Kentucky.* Include your full name and school at the top of the page. Attach the essay as a separate document to the application.

¹ Affiliates include Inter Mountain Cable, Inc., Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company, Inc., Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc., Mountain Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc., Foothills Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc., and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, one of the aforementioned entities.

4. Do not staple paperwork.
5. Do not include pictures in submissions.
6. Appalachian Wireless does not discriminate based on sex, age, race, national origin, religion, or special needs.

2026 Appalachian Wireless Scholarship Application

Part I: Background Information

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME		MIDDLE INITIAL
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	HOME TEL. NO.
FATHER'S NAME		MOTHER'S NAME	
LIST ALL APPALACHIAN WIRELESS CELL NUMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD			

Part II: School Information

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL		COUNTY	
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	TEL. NO.
NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND			
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	TEL. NO.
INTENDED MAJOR		INTENDED MINOR	

Part III: Financial Need

FATHER'S EMPLOYER		OCCUPATION	
MOTHER'S EMPLOYER		OCCUPATION	
PLEASE INDICATE YOUR FAMILY'S ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME FROM LAST YEAR'S TAX RETURN			
PLEASE LIST ANY FINANCIAL AID OR SCHOLARSHIPS YOU'VE BEEN AWARDED AND AMOUNTS			
TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS LIVING AT HOME	NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS IN YOUR FAMILY INCLUDING YOURSELF		AGES
IF EMPLOYED, PROVIDE THE NAME OF YOUR EMPLOYER		HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU WORK PER WEEK?	DO YOU PLAN TO WORK WHILE ATTENDING COLLEGE?
LIST ANY OTHER FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE NOTED			

Part IV: School/Community Involvement

Please list your most outstanding school activities (i.e., clubs, athletic teams, etc.) in order of importance to you. You may attach a separate sheet of paper if needed.

Activities	List Year(s) of Membership (9, 10, 11, 12)	Leadership Positions (Indicate offices held and years)

Part IV: School/Community Involvement continues on next page.

Part IV: School/Community Involvement (*Continued*)

Please list any awards/honors you have received during high school.

Please list your most outstanding community activities (i.e., church groups, social groups, volunteer organizations, etc.) in order of importance to you. You may attach a separate sheet of paper if needed.

Activities	Years of Involvement	Leadership Positions (Indicate offices held and years)

Part V: Academic Information

ACT SCORES	ENGLISH	MATH	READING	SCIENCE	COMPOSITE
SAT SCORES	VERBAL	MATH	TOTAL		
CLASS RANK	/	NO. OF HONORS CLASSES TAKEN AND/OR IN PROGRESS	NO. OF A.P. CLASSES TAKEN AND/OR IN PROGRESS	MOST RECENT OVERALL GPA (ADJUST TO 4.0 SCALE)	



Guidance Counselor Verification

I have verified the information provided in this Part V: Academic Information and acknowledge that this student is in good standing with his/her high school.

SIGNATURE OF GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	PRINT NAME	DATE
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Part VI: Student Acknowledgement

By signing below, I understand and agree to abide by the requirements/terms described in the scholarship package and verify that all information I have provided is accurate.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT	PRINT NAME	DATE
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Part VII: Release

If selected as a scholarship recipient, I hereby grant permission to Appalachian Wireless to use my name, parent or guardian name(s), college selection, and other information, including any photographs taken at the scholarship presentation, in any form of publication, including printed materials, social media, television, and internet. I represent that I have the authority to grant this permission.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT	PRINT NAME	DATE
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If you are under the age of 18, your parent or guardian must also sign below:

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN	PRINT NAME	DATE
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PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) NAMES AS THEY SHOULD APPEAR IN ANY PUBLICATION

FOR APPALACHIAN WIRELESS USE ONLY

Applicant Number	Application Complete
Date Received	RSA