



# ASBA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 2026 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## Freshman Scholarship Award Program 4 Congressional Scholarships and Marshall R. Hughes Scholarship

The Arkansas School Boards Association (ASBA) Educational Foundation Freshman Scholarship Program supports the sons, daughters, or legal wards of ASBA-affiliated Arkansas school board members entering two- or four-year colleges. Established by the ASBA Educational Foundation in September 1992, the program awarded its first congressional scholarships in 1994. In 2021, the Marshall R. Hughes Scholarship, honoring former Beardesley Public Finance employee Marshall Hughes, was introduced.

### Scholarship Awards

Each year, five scholarships are awarded:

- **Four Congressional Scholarships:** \$2,500 each, one per congressional district.
- **Marshall R. Hughes Scholarship:** \$5,000 for the overall statewide winner.

A committee appointed by the ASBA Board of Directors will review applications and select recipients. Scholarships are awarded before the fall school term.

### Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be the sons, daughters, or legal wards of publicly elected Arkansas school board members.
- The parent or guardian must have served on their local board during the school year in which the scholarship is awarded.
- Scholarships are one-time grants for incoming freshmen at two- or four-year colleges.

### Selection Criteria

Awards are based on:

- Academic performance
- Leadership and community involvement
- Extracurricular activities
- Special talents or unique endeavors
- Future educational and career goals
- Financial need (may be considered)

## **Application Requirements**

Applicants must submit:

1. **Completed Application:** ASBA Educational Foundation Freshman Scholarship Application.
2. **Two Letters of Recommendation:** From a teacher, administrator, clergy, employer, or community member.
3. **Official Transcript:** Seven semesters, including GPA, class rank, and college entrance scores, signed by a school official.
4. **Essay:** A 500-word statement outlining goals, plans, past activities, life influences, and how the scholarship will support the applicant's education.
5. **Résumé:** Detailing accomplishments and activities.
6. **Photo:** Recent photograph of the applicant.

## **Submission Details**

Submit the application and required documents by **4 p.m., Monday, March 2, 2026**, via this link: <https://forms.gle/dkndfkHizJttAD7cA>.

**Important:** Ensure all items are submitted together, as partial submissions will not be considered. Save each file with the applicant's name in the file name.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Prothro at [jprothro@arsba.org](mailto:jprothro@arsba.org) or **501.492.4820**.