In 2003 the Awareness Garden Foundation established The Awareness Garden in Lynchburg, Virginia to honor the families, friends, and caregivers whose lives have been touched by cancer. In 2004 the Awareness Garden Scholarship Program was established to help students whose lives have been impacted by cancer or who plan to work in a cancer related field to pursue their educational goals.

The Awareness Garden Foundation will award at least one $2,500 scholarship to a student attending an accredited two or four-year college, university, or technical school. Applicants should reside within the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, or the cities of Bedford or Lynchburg in the state of Virginia. Children of present Awareness Garden Foundation board members will not be eligible to apply.

Application submission deadline is March 1, 2027.

Applications should include:

- Scholarship application
- Scholarship agreement
- Evidence of acceptance or enrollment in an accredited 2- or 4-year college, university, or technical school
- Academic transcript
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation with Letter of Recommendation Forms—1 Academic and 1 Personal (If applicants have not attended school in the past five years, two personal references will be acceptable.)
- Essay addressing all questions listed below. While the Selection Committee is concerned about the quality of their writing, it will be primarily concerned with the quality of their thinking. Essays must be approximately 500 words, typed, and double spaced, and address the following topics:
    - o How has their experience with cancer affected their life and their value system?
    - o How has their experience with cancer affected their volunteer/extracurricular activities?
    - o What are their career goals, and how has their experience with cancer affected those goals?
    - o How will this scholarship assist them in achieving their career goals?
- A typewritten resume listing their extracurricular activities; volunteer and paid job experience; and honors and awards.

Applicants are evaluated on the following:

- Effectiveness of applicant's essay in responding to questions listed above.
- Evidence of academic motivation and potential for success as demonstrated in the recommendation letters.
- Demonstration of leadership, extracurricular activities, community service, and work experience as outlined in the resume.
- Academic potential and performance such as high school and/or college GPA's.
- Essay in which they clearly outline their career goals and demonstrate how their lives, value systems, activities and career goals have been affected by their experience with cancer. This essay should also indicate how this scholarship would assist them in achieving those goals.

The Awareness Garden Foundation scholarship process is fair and demonstrates equal access to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other characteristics protected by law.

Awareness Garden Foundation
2027 Scholarship Program Announcement

In 2003 the Awareness Garden Foundation established The Awareness Garden in Lynchburg, Virginia to honor the families, friends, and caregivers whose lives have been touched by cancer. In 2004 the Awareness Garden Scholarship Program was established to help students whose lives have been impacted by cancer or who plan to work in a cancer related field to pursue their educational goals.

The Awareness Garden Foundation will award at least one $2,500 scholarship to a student attending an accredited two or four-year college, university, or technical school. Those who wish to apply for this scholarship must meet the following requirements:

- Application must be received by the Awareness Garden Foundation by 5:00 p.m., March 1, 2026. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Children of present Awareness Garden Foundation board members will not be eligible to apply.
- All information must be completed as noted. (Applications must be typed or clearly written and essays must be typed.) Email PDF attachments to **marystuart@awarenessgarden.org** or mail hard copies. Please be sure to allow enough time for the mail to be delivered.
- If mailing, use the address listed below.

The Awareness Garden Foundation
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 3231
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503
Contact: marystuart@awarenessgarden.org

Applications are available on our website, https://awarenessgarden.org/programs/ and from school guidance, admissions and/or financial aid departments.

GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Awareness Garden Foundation Scholarship Program is to assist students whose lives have been impacted by cancer or who wish to pursue work in a cancer related field. In 2027 at least one Awareness Garden scholarship in the amount of $2,500 will be awarded.

I. REQUIREMENTS:

1. Applicants should reside within the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, or the cities of Bedford or Lynchburg in the state of Virginia.

2. Applicants must show evidence of acceptance or enrollment in an accredited 2- or 4-year college, university, or technical school.

3. Applicants must include in their application submission written recommendations from one teacher and one personal acquaintance. The **Letter of Recommendation Form** is found in the application packet. If applicants have not attended school in the past five years, two personal references will be acceptable.

4. Applicants must submit an essay addressing all topics listed below. While the Selection Committee is concerned about the quality of their writing it will be primarily concerned about the quality of their thinking. Essays must be approximately 500 words long, **typed and double spaced**, and address the following topics:
   a. How has their experience with cancer affected their life and their value system?
   b. How has their experience with cancer affected their volunteer/extracurricular activities?
   c. What are their career goals, and how has their experience with cancer affected those goals?
   d. How will this scholarship assist them in achieving their career goals?

II. SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Applicants must submit an essay in which they clearly outline their career goals and demonstrate how their lives, value systems, activities and career goals have been affected by their experience with cancer. This essay should also indicate how this scholarship would assist them in achieving those goals.

2. Applicants must submit evidence of academic potential and performance such as high school and/or college GPA's.

3. Applicants must submit a typewritten resume listing their extracurricular activities; volunteer and paid job experience; and honors and awards

III. EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. Effectiveness of applicant's essay in responding to questions posed above in **I., 4. a), b), c) and d).**
2. Evidence of academic motivation and potential for success as demonstrated in the recommendation letters.
3. Demonstration of leadership, extracurricular activities, community service, and work experience as outlined in the resume.

APPLICATION TIMELINE:

Applications must be **received** by the Awareness Garden Foundation no later than **5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2027. Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted**. All information must be completed as noted (application must be typed or clearly written and essays must be typed. All material must be submitted in hard copy.)

DATE: March 1	Completed applications and all supportive materials are due to Awareness Garden Foundation.
DATE: April 3rd	Semi-finalists are notified of their selection.
DATE: April 12th-16th	Semi-finalists are interviewed by the Scholarship Committee.
DATE: April 23rd	Award recipients are notified of their selection.
DATE: April 30th	Awarded recipients must notify Awareness Garden of their decision regarding scholarship acceptance.
DATE: TBD	Award ceremony will take place at the Awareness Garden.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

The Awareness Garden Foundation scholarship process is fair and demonstrates equal access to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other characteristics protected by law.

THE AWARENESS GARDEN FOUNDATION
2027 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Instructions: Please type or clearly print all requested information. Essays must be typewritten.

Applicant's Full Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Birth Date: _____ Age: _____

If under 18 at time of application, Parent(s) or Legal Guardian:
_____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

High School Name/Address: _____

Grade Point Average: _____ Class Rank _____ out of _____

Indicate the major you intend to pursue in college: _____

Acceptances: List the colleges, universities, or technical schools to which you applied for admission and specify whether you were accepted, rejected, or have not yet heard. (If more than five, include an attachment.)

Name	Accepted	Rejected	Waiting List	Not heard
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Matriculation: Identify the college, university, or technical school where you have been accepted and will attend.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Name of Contact person: _____
Telephone number: _____

Notify Mary Stuart Battle (marystuart@awarenessgarden.org) of acceptances received after March 1, 2027.

AWARENESS GARDEN FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT

Applicant: I certify that all statements made in this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the scholarship is contingent upon the following items:

- I will notify the Awareness Garden Foundation by June 30, 2027, regarding which college, university, or technical school I will attend to allow scholarship funds to be paid directly to the school.

- The period of my scholarship award will be from August 1, 2027, through July 31, 2028. Any request for exceptions to this time frame must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors and include a full explanation of circumstances for the request.

- If requested, I will inform the Awareness Garden Scholarship Committee of my academic progress at my chosen college, university, or technical school.

- I will permit the Awareness Garden Foundation to use all information obtained as part of the scholarship application process for any reason, including, but not limited to, public relations announcements or my attendance at Awareness Garden events.

- I will keep the Awareness Garden informed of my current home and school addresses and contact information.

Applicant's Signature **Date**

Parent/Guardian (if under 18): I have reviewed the application and the verified statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have reviewed and fully understand the terms of the Scholarship Agreement and agree with the requirements.

Parent/Guardian's Signature **Date**

Guidance Counselor: I have reviewed the applicant's responses and verified that they are correct, insofar as the official school records indicate.

Guidance Counselor's Signature **Date**

awareness garden

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Name of Scholarship Candidate: _____ Date: _____

To the Recommendation Writer:

Please either return a copy of this completed form along with the recommendation letter in a sealed envelope directly to the person applying for the scholarship or upload to the LCS portal for the student. These items must accompany the student's application submission.

The following form is to be completed by the person making the recommendation.

1. **What words come to mind when describing the applicant?**

2. **Please rate this student by circling a number from 1 – 5. (5 is the highest rating, 1 the lowest.)**

Quality:	**Student Rating:**					
	Lowest				**Highest**	
Academic Motivation	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Academic Potential	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Creativity	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Self-Discipline	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Leadership	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Initiative	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Reaction to Setbacks	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Oral Communication	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Classroom Participation	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**

Independence	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Problem Solving	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**
Overall Impression	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**( ) No basis for judgment**

Your Name: _____

Telephone: (Office) _____ (Home) _____

Relationship to student: _____
(Cannot be a relative)

How long have you known the student? _____

AWARENESS GARDEN FOUNDATION
APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Please submit copies of the following:

_____ Fully completed and signed application

_____ Scholarship agreement

_____ Certified high school or college transcript

_____ Evidence of academic potential and performance such as high school and/or college GPA's.

_____ Two letters of recommendation with complete completed letter of recommendation forms.
_____ Teachers (1)
_____ Personal (1)

_____ Essay that is approximately 500 words long, typed, and double spaced, and address the following topics: Essay needs to clearly outline their career goals and demonstrate how their lives, value systems, activities and career goals have been affected by their experience with cancer. This essay should also indicate how this scholarship could assist them in achieving those goals.

_____ Complete resume including extracurricular activities, volunteer work, awards, and honors.