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WEBPAGE***

Christine D. Brown Memorial 2026 Scholarship Application

SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP) believes the world will be shaped by youth who know their purpose and own their power – the fighters, the conquerors, the resilient who overcome – the ones who know that a mountain is climbed one step at a time. WYAP's scholarship program is built for students, like you, who are determined to make the climb. This scholarship is provided by generous donors, the Brown Family, and the WYAP Board of Directors in honor of Christine D. (Cannon) Brown and the 502 children she advocated for during her tenure as an Early Intervention Advocate for WYAP.

Christine always saw the best in people, even if they didn't believe in themselves, and loved them through any challenge they might be facing rooting them on to overcome that challenge and be a better human because of the experience. Through her own actions, Christine believed in grit, hard work, and perseverance.

The Scholarship Committee is not looking for the "best" or "most accomplished" student. We are looking for youth who won't be defined by things that have happened in their lives, who know who they are, and who know how they want to impact the world. Personal power occurs when you embrace your strengths, feel confident, and build resilience to face challenges over the course of your life. It is the positive things you feel about yourself and what you believe about yourself that will change the world. Knowing your purpose and owning your personal power means being:

- ♣ Worthy
- ♣ Independent
- ♣ Brave
- ♣ Living into your values
- ♣ Persevere through "things that happen to you"
- ♣ Making sure your life has a purpose

ELIGIBILITY

WYAP provides one (1) \$5,002 scholarship to current or former students or graduates who have resided in or attended a Westfield Washington Township school (i.e. Westfield Public Schools, Guerin Catholic High School, Options High School, Homeschooling, etc.). All recipients must



demonstrate their plans for continued education. You must be a graduating senior or no older than age 25 to be eligible for the scholarship. You may apply for this scholarship more than once, but you can only be selected as the recipient once. Scholarships will be provided directly to the institution.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The scholarship committee will be reviewing applications and making selections based on the following criteria in no particular order:

- ♣ Alignment with the Core Purpose of WYAP's Annual Scholarship
- ♣ Preparedness to Succeed in Chosen Academic Pursuit
- ♣ Quality of Overall Application

To be considered for these awards, all application materials must be submitted by **April 1, 2026**, to Kristina Logan at klogan@westfieldyap.org.

Applicants will be notified about scholarship awards by **April 20, 2026**. All recipients are asked to attend the WYAP Recognition Breakfast on **May 6, 2025**. If selected, you will be contacted about details for the Recognition Breakfast.

WYAP will need proof of acceptance for the semester, prior to the funds being distributed. The scholarship recipient must fill out the acceptance form to claim the scholarship no later than **December 1, 2026**.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must meet these qualifications to be eligible for the scholarship program (must check all three to be considered):

- I attend, have attended, or will graduate from a school in Westfield Washington Township school (i.e., Westfield Public Schools, Guerin Catholic High School, or Options High School) or reside in Westfield Washington Township, where I am homeschooled or attended Westfield Washington township schools and later achieved a GED.
- I am currently or will be attending a Four-year College/University, Two-year College, Vocational-Technical School/Program, Adult Education/Continuing Education Program, Certificate Program, Cosmetology Program, or Life Skills Program.
- By signing below, I acknowledge that I am applying for the Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP) Christine D. Brown Memorial Scholarship as noted and certify that I meet the requirements of the award.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name



Preferred First Name

Date of Birth

Cell Phone

Email

Current Home Address

If you are under the age of 18, please provide the following information

Primary Caregiver Name

Cell Phone

Primary Caregiver Email

SCHOOL OR PROGRAM INFORMATION

School/Program Currently Attending

Expected Date of Graduation/Completion

If currently enrolled in a school or program, please list your student identification number

Please tell us in 3 sentences or less about a mentor/tutor/teacher that has had the most impact on you and why.

Hobbies/Extracurricular Activities

POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS

In this section, please fill out only the sections that are applicable to you. Please list all institutions that you have applied for. If you have multiple institutions under one category, please list them all and indicate whether you have been accepted to at least one of these institutions.

What role will this scholarship play in helping you achieve your post-high school plans? (e.g, career goals, financial support).

Personal Reflection

Pick one question to answer. Answers can be provided through writing, poetry, art, music, media, etc.

- ♣ Tell us about yourself. How are you unique? What impact will that have on your future?
- ♣ Describe something that has happened in your life that has shaped who you are today. What did you learn? How will that help you make a difference in our world?
- ♣ What is a difficult decision you have had to make? How did you decide what to do, and what was the result? What did you learn about yourself?



- ♣ Despite a challenge you have had to go through, what impact do you want to make in the future? How will this scholarship help you achieve your continuing education goals to make this impact?
- ♣ What have been the biggest challenges for you so far? How have you approached them? What has been the outcome?

If your file is too large to upload here, please email it to klogan@westfieldyap.org along with the full name that is on your application.

Additional Forms to Upload

Letter of Reference:

Please attach a one-page letter of reference from an adult in your life (non-biological family member or primary caregiver) who can share with the committee more about how you have owned your personal power over the course of the time they have known you. For example, they can share more about your personal character, how you have overcome challenges, your goals for the future and the strengths you possess to achieve them, etc.

Academic Transcript:

Please attach high school transcript, or current transcript for the program you are enrolled in.

If you are unable to attach a transcript, please explain why.

Any Questions?

Please direct any questions to Kristina Logan at klogan@westfieldyap.org

Only complete applications will be considered. If you did not upload all documents, you must email all supporting documents by April 1, 2026, to have an eligible application.

The recipient of the scholarship will be notified by April 20th. The recipient will be invited to attend the WYAP annual Youth Recognition Breakfast on May 6th at IMMI from 7-9 am to be honored.