

2026 Saydel High School Scholarship Entry Form

Deadline for scholarship application is April 3, 2026, 3:30 p.m.



Name: _____
(Last) (First) (MI)

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Contact Number: _____

Birth Date: _____ Are you a credit union member? YES / NO Parent / Guardian

Names: _____

College Planning to Attend: _____

College Major: _____

Sworn Statement

I swear the attached essay and resume are my original work and all other personal information is true. I understand the essay and resume become the property of Affinity Credit Union for whatever use they deem appropriate. I agree to cooperate with Affinity Credit Union in promotional activities related to the scholarship competition, and should I be selected a winner; give them permission to use my name and photo in promotional activities. Recipients of scholarships are asked to attend the Affinity Credit Union annual meeting on the evening of May 12, 2026 to receive recognition.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit Entry Form, Essay, and Resume to:

Guidance Office, Saydel High School by April 3, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

Affinity Credit Union Scholarship Rules, Regulations & Entry Procedures



Affinity Credit Union's scholarship program encourages young adults to learn about the credit union movement and to prepare themselves for future challenges, both inside and outside the credit union movement. One NON-RENEWABLE \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time college student attending a community college or four-year university.

I. Eligibility

- A. To be eligible, applicants must be attending a four-year college/university or community college.

II. Entry Requirements

Entrants will be required to write an essay of approximately 500 words on the following topics:

Affinity Credit Union's mission statement is "Building Better Lives." In your opinion, what role should financial institutions such as Affinity play in the betterment of their communities? Please describe what "building better lives" means to you and discuss how you hope to exemplify these characteristics during your collegiate studies.

- A. The essay must be typed and double-spaced on white 8 ½ x 11-inch paper. The essay must be the original work of the entrant.
- B. Entrants will also be required to submit a typed, business-style resume on 8 ½ x 11-inch white paper. The resume should not exceed two pages in length and, at a minimum, should contain the following information: entrant's name, address, phone number, educational information (including high school attended), subjects emphasized throughout entrant's education, cumulative grade point average from your entire high school career, ACT/ SAT scores (if available), honors and awards, extracurricular activities, and future educational plans.
- C. Entrants must complete and sign an official entry form.

III. Judging

- A. A scholarship committee from Saydel High School will conduct the judging.

- B. Each judge will award a maximum of 75 points to the essay and a maximum of 25 points to the resume. Judges will base their scores for the essay on originality, clarity, meaningful content, accurate presentation of facts, adherence to contest rules, spelling, neatness, grammar, and punctuation. The resume will be judged on neatness and presentation, adherence to contest rules, and potential of the student to be successful in college.
- C. All entries must be received in the Saydel HS Guidance Department no later than **April 3, 2026, 3:30 p.m.** All entry forms and required documents must be included.
- D. The results will be tabulated, and the winner will be declared. All decisions of the Saydel High School Scholarship Committee are final. The winner will be notified by May 1, 2026. Recipient of this scholarship are asked to attend the Affinity Credit Union annual meeting on the evening of May 12, 2026, to be recognized for their scholarship.
- E. All scholarship entries become the exclusive property of Affinity Credit Union and will not be returned.

IV. Administrative/Award Procedures

- A. Winner of the scholarship must begin their study within one year of being awarded the scholarship or may be required to forfeit the award in the absence of extenuating circumstance.
- B. Winner must be enrolled as a full-time student at any 4-year college approved for the guaranteed student loan program.
- C. Affinity Credit Union will hold scholarship funds until written verification is received from the college registrar where the student is enrolled.
- D. **Funds are to be used for tuition, room and board, and book and educational expenses only.** Affinity Credit Union and/or Saydel High School may require documentation. If documentation cannot be shown (at the discretion of the above listed entities) funding may be required to be paid back in full.

V. Authority of Affinity Credit Union

- A. Affinity Credit Union has the ultimate authority to amend any of the above rules to ensure fairness in the award of the scholarship.
- B. Any questions regarding the scholarship should be addressed in writing to Affinity Credit Union, 475 NW Hoffman Lane, Des Moines, IA 50313.