

## 2026 GCF&R SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Galveston County Fair & Rodeo, Inc. is proud to offer several scholarships to eligible Galveston County high school seniors. The number of scholarships to be awarded will be determined by the amount of available funds and the rating of the applicant. Applicants are rated on scholastic achievement, agricultural related participation, Summer Series Youth Rodeo participation, community service, leadership, financial need, and interview.

Each applicant must be a current member of a Galveston County 4-H Club, FFA Chapter, or Summer Series Youth Rodeo participant, must be a graduate from a high school (public, private or TEA-approved schooling at home) within Galveston County I.S.D. boundaries or reside in Galveston County during the school year of application and begin college, university, or trade school the following Fall semester. All applicants must have participated in the fair (entered/shown livestock, youth projects or ag mechanics) for at least **two** years with one of the years being the current year's fair and/or have participated in at least two summer series rodeos with one of them being the most recently held summer series. Scholarships are awarded for any area of study.

The deadline for applying for a 2026 Galveston County Fair & Rodeo, Inc., scholarship is **Thursday, February 5, 2026**. Completed applications will be accepted in the Fair Office until 5pm on this date or bring your application in early to avoid missing the deadline.

Applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee and will be awarded on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026**, in the Ed Pickett Memorial Hall during the GCF&R Scholarship Awards Banquet. Each Scholarship Recipient is expected to attend the GCF&R Scholarship Awards Banquet. The Fair Office must be notified if the scholarship recipient is unable to attend, and it will be the responsibility of the recipient to make arrangements with the Fair Office to pick-up their scholarship information.

All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final. Thank you for your interest and good luck to all of those applying in 2026!

### **Available Scholarships**

All applicants will be considered for scholarships offered through GCF&R. These may include but are not limited to the GCF&R scholarships and several memorial scholarships. The memorial scholarships are given in memory of those individuals who for many years contributed their time and efforts to make the Galveston County Fair & Rodeo a success for the youth of Galveston County. ***Special requirements may apply for awarded scholarships and these requirements will be listed in your award letter which you will receive when you are presented your scholarship.***

### **Photograph**

Each Applicant must electronically (Jpeg file) furnish two full color photographs – one headshot (elbows/shoulders up, no sunglasses, no hats, solid or non-distracting background, professional in style and content) and one candid photo of you with your fair project. These photos must be **“taken” photos** – enlisting the help of someone to take the photo of you is required as **selfies will not be accepted**. NO blurry or pixelated shots, no other individuals are allowed. The photos of the applicants chosen as recipients will be used in promotional materials – awards program, social media, fair website, etc. The photos must be emailed to: [scholarships@galvestoncountyfair.com](mailto:scholarships@galvestoncountyfair.com) by the deadline – 5:00 pm on February 5, 2026.

### **Application**

Applicants must complete a Scholarship Application available online or at the Fair Office. ***It is important that you read the Instructions on the application as well as these Guidelines prior to completing the application.*** The application must be paper clipped together (no staples) in page number order and submitted in a 9” X 12” envelope with 2026 Scholarship Application written on the upper left-hand corner. **Attached to the back of the application must be one current (as of mid-term) copy of the high school transcript, a photograph for publication, college entrance examination scores if available, Letter of Recommendation.** ***These instructions must be followed, or the application will not be accepted.***

**\*RESUME (CV). PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY.** Type and attach a one page resume (CV). Please use standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper, 1.15 line spacing with legible font (e.g. Times New Roman). Font size should be 12 pt., leave only two spaces after periods or other punctuation marks and set your margins to 1 inch on all sides. Add headings to help navigate between resume sections. This resume will not be judged. It will be utilized by the scholarship committee when you come in for your interview.

**Content of Resume (CV):** This type of Resume is considered a “High School Graduate Resume”. To help you create this resume, you should research “High School Graduate Resume Templates”. The resume should include your name and contact information, a brief paragraph of your educational plans/career goals, Your education, Your experience at the Galveston County Fair and Rodeo, Offices held and awards, volunteering experience and other interests/hobbies..

### **Scholarship Recipients**

Must present a copy of their High School Diploma and a copy of their Fall Semester's tuition statement & enrollment showing the classes and hours (at least 12 hours required) they have enrolled in for the semester before the first installment is paid. Scholarship funds are distributed in equal installments at the beginning of each semester (August - September for the Fall semester and January - February for the Spring semester).

A transcript of the first semester's work and enrollment verification for the next semester must be sent to the Fair Office before the amount for the second semester is forwarded. A 2.0 Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) per semester is required by each recipient to receive scholarship funds. Recipients must also maintain, complete and receive credit for a minimum of 12 hours per semester.

Trade School enrollees must provide to the Fair Office a copy of their High School Diploma and enrollment verification as active full-time or co-op basis in Trade School before the first installment is paid. The payment of the second installment will be determined by the Scholarship Committee based upon how levels of completion are determined by the Trade School in which you are enrolled. Additional paperwork may be requested by the Scholarship Committee.

Recipients must keep in contact with the Fair Office concerning their scholarship award. **Recipients who do not contact the Fair Office about their scholarship by November 5, 2026 will forfeit any and all awards.** Any recipient who needs to have their scholarship held to a later date, must write a letter of explanation to the scholarship committee for their approval. Recipients who receive a payment(s) but fail to contact the Fair Office again for a period of one semester will forfeit any and all awards not already paid. Time limits apply for usage of scholarship. All awards not used in the allowed period of time will be forfeited.