

Next Step Scholarship

The Next Step Scholarship fund was established to assist students planning to pursue a trade, vocation, or a career in a specific profession*. The scholarship has the potential to be renewable for an additional year, re-application is required. Up to \$1,500 Award

Eligibility & Criteria

- Graduating senior from a public high school in Thurston, Mason, or Lewis Counties, or Raymond (Pacific County)
- Cumulative GPA between 1.75 and 2.75
- Plans to attend a trade school, apprenticeship program, vocational school, or community college
- Exhibits a positive attitude, the willingness to learn, and an ability to follow directions
- Demonstrates a strong potential for successful program completion
- Preference will be given to a student who performs well over time or has steadily improved

*Examples of careers/vocations include (but are not limited to): dental hygienist, construction, truck driver, beautician, nursing, legal secretary, culinary arts, IT.

The following career paths are excluded from consideration: physician, architect, veterinarian, attorney, and CPA.

Application Required Items:

Personal Statement

- Write a statement indicating your personal and future career goals, employment history (if applicable), why you have selected this trade or career path, and how completing your course of study will impact you. Please include other information that will show the Scholarship Selection Committee you are a strong candidate (e.g. outstanding attributes, talents, service to school or community, commitment to pursuing educational goals, motivation, and/or family circumstances). (Minimum word count: 300)

Two Letters of Recommendation

- Letters of Recommendation should remark on the applicant's overall character, achievement, and promise. Letters can be from an employer, church official, or community member, but at least one must be from a teacher, advisor, or administrator.

Grade Transcript

- Most recent grade transcript. Unofficial are accepted.

Attendance Record

- Report for all four years of high school, if possible.