

# 2024 Ecosystems Scholarship

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*Community Foundation of South Puget Sound*

## *Community Foundation Scholarship Platform Notes and Tips*

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### **Tips for using the online scholarships platform:**

- Required fields are indicated with an asterisk \*.
- Character limits include spaces and punctuation.
- To work on your application in a language other than English, please use the "Select Language" drop down button in the top left corner to activate Google Translate.
- Check Your Work!
  - o Double check formatting and character count after copying/pasting from Word, as there are software differences that can cause an error in how your application appears on our scholarship platform.
- Saving Your Application
  - o While there is an autosave feature, double check for a "Save" button at the bottom of the page before closing your browser.
- The size of text boxes may be adjusted by dragging the lower right corner.
- Additional Documents
  - o To create a PDF version of your completed application that you can save and/or print, click the "Application Packet" button at the top of the application page.
  - o Click on the "Questions List" button in the upper right-hand corner of the application page to view the application instructions and questions in PDF form.

*If you have any questions about this form, please feel free to reach out to Melissa Rosscup (Mx./They/Them) at [mrosscup@thecommunityfoundation.com](mailto:mrosscup@thecommunityfoundation.com) or call 360-705-3340.*

## *Student Information*

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**Please fill out the following section with your most up-to-date contact information. While it may feel repetitive, this ensures that Community Foundation staff is able to quickly communicate with you in the event that additional information is needed and to inform you of award decisions.**

### **Applicant Name\***

*Character Limit: 250*

**Phone\***

Please provide us with the best phone number for which we can reach you.

*Character Limit: 10*

**Personal Email\***

Please provide us with an email that you check most frequently.

*Character Limit: 254*

## *Post-Secondary Institution Information*

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**Current Class Status\***

What is your current class/grade?

**Choices**

Sophomore (2nd year)

Junior (3rd year)

Senior (4th+ year)

**Currently Attending\***

Which post-secondary institution are you currently attending?

**Choices**

The Evergreen State College

University of Washington

Washington State University

Western Washington University

**Major and/or Studies\***

What is your current major and/or course of study?

*Character Limit: 250*

**Cumulative GPA\***

What is your current cumulative GPA?

*Character Limit: 20*

**Transcript\***

Please upload a copy of your most recent post-secondary institutions' transcript. This can be an official or unofficial copy. *Accepted documentation includes scanned documents, screenshots,*

*and photos (example file types include jpg, docx, pdf, png, etc.).*

***Document must include all classes, final grades, and GPA for each quarter/semester of post-secondary schooling you have completed through December 31, 2023.***

*File Size Limit: 3 MB*

### **Anticipated Graduation Date\***

When is your anticipated graduation date?

***Note:*** *If you are unsure of the day, please select the first day of the month you will be graduating.*

*Character Limit: 10*

## ***Recommendation Instructions***

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**All applicants are required to submit three references.**

- References can be from a current or former teacher (or other school official) or from a personal contact such as an employer, coach, community member, or religious or spiritual leader (excluding immediate family members).
- Each submission must be from a different person.

Each reference will be asked to complete a short online Reference Questionnaire. The Reference Questionnaire must be submitted by each reference no later than **March 17, 2024 at 11:59pm.**

- It is recommended that you send your request for a reference well in advance of the due date. **Frequently, references are not received by the due date if the request has been made less than one week prior to the deadline.**
  - You can check the status of your Reference Questionnaires at any time by logging into your account and viewing the status of "Third Party Responses" on your home page.
- For further details, you can click "Edit Application" or "View Application" and scroll to the "Reference" section of your application.
- **SPECIAL NOTE:** Verify you have provided the correct email address. Sometimes, school district email addresses are often protected with anti-virus/spam software, resulting in the Reference Questionnaire link or your composed email not being received. Make sure your references check their spam/junk folders.

- If your application is still in DRAFT status, and you have already checked 1) with your reference and asked them to check their spam/junk folder, 2) the email address you provided is correct, and they are still not receiving the email with the Reference Questionnaire link, you can click "Compose Email" again to resend an email and the link.

## Short Essay Questions

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### Personal Statement\*

Using the space provided, please share some of your life experiences that have helped inspire your passion for nature. This may include volunteer or employment involvement with an environmental organization or hands-on work for a natural resources, land use agency, or company.

*Character Limit: 1500*

### Education - Future Plans\*

Using the space provided, please write a short statement indicating your reasons for pursuing the natural resources or land use planning major, as well as addressing your future career goals. (Minimum character count: 750)

*Character Limit: 1500*

## Declarations

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**By submitting this scholarship application, you agree to the following:**

- I understand that my request may not be funded or may only be partially funded
- The information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge
- Any false statements may result in denial of consideration
- I give my consent to the Community Foundation of South Puget Sound to use the information provided for the purpose of scholarship award consideration

### I agree to the declarations above\*

Type your full, legal name below.

*Character Limit: 250*

## Demographics

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**Why we ask for this information:** Your responses will help give us a better understanding of who is applying for our scholarships and how we can provide more equitable support to our South Puget Sound students.

*NOTE: Information provided in this section will **not** be used in determining scholarship eligibility. This information will be kept internal to Community Foundation staff only.*

### What is your date of birth?\*

*Character Limit: 10*

### Pronouns

Please use the space provided to include the pronouns that you **publicly** use and/or identify with. Pronouns can include, but are not limited to: they/them, she/her, fae/faer, he/him, ze/zir, and xe/xem.

*Why we ask: Sharing your pronouns will help us make sure we refer to you correctly in Community Foundation communications.*

*Character Limit: 250*

### Gender Identity: Do you identify with the same gender you were assigned at birth?\*

#### Choices

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

### Race/Ethnicity\*

**Check all race and/or ethnicities that you identify with.**

*Why we ask: We want to make sure our scholarship program includes and welcomes students who represent the full diversity of our local communities. We are asking the following question about race and ethnic identity as one way to measure how well we are meeting this goal. The information you share here will **not** be viewed by committees, affect your eligibility, or be used in the evaluation process.*

#### Choices

African Descent/African American/Black

Bi/multiracial

Caribbean

East Asian  
First Nations/Indigenous Native American/Alaska Native  
Hispanic  
Latino/a/Latinx  
Middle Eastern North African (MENA)  
Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian  
South/Central American  
Southeast Asian  
White/European Descent  
Other Race/Ethnicity  
Prefer not to answer

### If Other Racial/Ethnic Identity, please share here:

*Character Limit: 250*

## Gender Assigned at Birth - Yes

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### Gender Assigned at Birth\*

What gender were you assigned at birth?

#### Choices

Cisgender Man  
Cisgender Woman  
Prefer not to answer

## Gender Assigned at Birth - No

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### Gender Identity\*

Check all gender identities that you identify with.

**Why we ask:** We want to make sure our scholarship program includes and welcomes students who represent the full diversity of our local communities. We are asking the following question about gender identity as one way to measure how well we are meeting this goal. The information you share here will **not** be viewed by committees, affect your eligibility, or be used in the evaluation process.

#### Choices

Gender non-conforming  
Genderqueer  
Intersex  
Non-binary  
Transgender  
Transgender man  
Transgender woman

Two-spirit  
Other gender identity  
Prefer not to answer

### If Other Gender Identity, please share here:

*Character Limit: 250*

### Would you like to identify yourself as...

#### Choices

Somewhere on the trans feminine spectrum  
Somewhere on the trans masculine spectrum  
Combination of trans feminine and trans masculine  
None of the above

## Application Feedback

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The Community Foundation of South Puget Sound values feedback from scholarship applicants as it is an important part of improving our work and processes. We review feedback periodically and make adjustments to our instructions, processes, and website accordingly. Thank you for your time!

### How did you learn about these scholarships?\*

#### Choices

College Financial Aid Officer  
Community Foundation Scholarship Fund Holder  
Community Foundation Staff  
Community Foundation Website  
Employer  
Event/Workshop  
Nonprofit Organization  
Poster/Flyer  
School Official  
Social Media  
Teacher and/or professor  
Word of Mouth  
Other Online Site  
Other

### If Other, please share where you learned about these scholarships here:

*Character Limit: 250*

**Did you have any problems understanding the application questions?\***

Please select the score that most closely reflects your experience.

- **1 meaning** I had numerous problems understanding what the application questions were asking and required assistance.
- **5 meaning** I had no problems understanding what the application questions were asking and did not require assistance.

**Scoring Options:** 1 - 5

**Did you have any problems using the application platform?\***

Please select the score that most closely reflects your experience.

- **1 meaning** I had numerous problems understanding how to use the application platform and required assistance.
- **5 meaning** I had no problems understanding how to use the application platform and did not require assistance.

**Scoring Options:** 1 - 5

**Application Feedback (Optional)**

Please use this space to share any feedback you may have regarding our outreach/promotion, the application process, and/or our online scholarship system.

*Character Limit: 500*