

GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP

VIRGINIA

STEPS TO CLAIM THE GEAR UP VIRGINIA SCHOLARSHIP

The GEAR UP Virginia (GUV) Scholarship is available to eligible **2025** graduates from the following participating high schools: Brunswick, Hopewell or Petersburg.

Follow the steps below to claim your
\$2,500 scholarship!

STUDENT

STEP

1

Complete the GUV Senior Survey by scanning the QR code or visiting:

bit.ly/4bcyabl

QR code for
Steps 1 and 2



STEP

2

To complete Steps 2 and 3, you must know when and where you will enroll.

Complete the GUV Scholarship Request Form by scanning the QR code or visiting:

bit.ly/4bcyabl

STEP

3

Submit the required documents listed below by scanning the QR code or visiting:

bit.ly/3UdltH2

QR code for Step 3



Required documents:

- Your college acceptance letter or class schedule, and
- Your college financial aid award offer showing a detailed list of your financial aid awards. Note: You must complete the entire FAFSA/financial aid process to receive financial aid.

NOTE: PDFs, screenshots, pictures of documents are acceptable but make sure they are clear and show all details.

SCHEV

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) will review your GUV Scholarship EPR Form and supporting documents to determine if you meet eligibility requirements. You will receive an email from guvscholarship@schev.edu letting you know if you are tentatively eligible. **NOTE: This process can take 2 to 3 weeks.** Final eligibility will be verified several weeks after classes begin by your college financial aid office, following the payment process described on page 2 of this document.

STUDENT

Make sure you complete the entire FAFSA/financial aid process (including verification, if applicable) with your college and register for classes. You can report the scholarship to your college's financial aid office. The college may require you to complete an outside scholarship form that they provide. The college may choose to post the scholarship in a pending status until funds are received.

CONGRATULATIONS!

At this point, you will have done all you need to do to with SCHEV to claim your scholarship. The rest of the process is between SCHEV and your college.

See page 2 of this document and visit www.GEARUPVA.org/scholarship for more information.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE GUV SCHOLARSHIP, YOU MUST:

- Be a **2025** graduate of one of the following participating GEAR UP Virginia high schools: Brunswick, Hopewell or Petersburg
- Have earned a high school diploma or recognized equivalent.
- Be enrolled in an undergraduate two- or four-year degree program or high-quality certification program at an eligible institution of higher education.
 - An eligible institution of higher education is one that:
 - Is physically located in Virginia or one of its bordering states (i.e., Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, or West Virginia and the District of Columbia).
 - Exceptions may be made for (1) students with disabilities who need to attend a specific institution for accommodations and (2) students who are approved to participate in the Academic Common Market (visit www.schev.edu/acm for more information).
 - Participates in Title IV Federal Student Aid programs.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and be eligible for/offered Federal Student Aid.
- Be less than 22 years old at the time of award and disbursement.

NOTE: You, your college/university/trade school and your program must be eligible for and participate in Federal Student Aid. For information regarding eligibility, visit www.studentaid.gov or contact the financial aid office at your college/university/trade school.

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

Students who enroll and claim the scholarship within two years of graduating high school may receive a one-time award of up to \$2,500 for one term/semester (prorated for less than full-time enrollment).

Amount by Enrollment Level

- Full-time (12+ credits) = \$2,500
- Part-time (9-11 credits) = \$1,875
- Half-time (6-8 credits) = \$1,250
- Less than half-time (1-5 credits) = \$625

NOTE: For students who claim the award two years after their high school graduation, awards will be dependent on the availability of funds and offered award amounts may be reduced.

PAYMENT PROCESS

- After the college's census/drop date each term, SCHEV will email a student verification form to the college.
- The college will verify the student's enrollment level, federal student aid eligibility, and final scholarship amount and submit the completed form to SCHEV.
- Once the verification form is received, SCHEV will process payments and send the funds directly to the college (via check or bank transfer) within 2 to 3 weeks.
- The college will then post the scholarship to the student's college account. Funds may be used to help pay for educational-related expenses (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.) within the student's cost of attendance (COA) budget.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

- The award cannot exceed the maximum term/semester amount. Any unused funds will be forfeited by the student.
- The student's final scholarship amount will be determined by their enrollment level, COA budget (set by the college financial aid office) and financial need, depending on other aid awarded.
- The amount may be reduced by the college if the award, when combined with other aid, exceeds the student's COA budget or financial need. Colleges usually reduce loans, then unclaimed work-study, before reducing gift aid.
- If the scholarship creates a refund on the student's account, those funds may be refunded to the student following the college's refund policies.



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