



MT. WHEELER POWER

Powering Your Future

2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

This scholarship opportunity is designed to support your academic and career goals while celebrating what you're doing to “**Power Your Community.**” Our process emphasizes creativity, leadership, and innovation through three interactive stages:

Stage One: Application Questions (15 points)

The first step is completing the application form including answering the questions to help us get to know you better.

Stage Two: Impact Pitch (35 points)

For this stage, submit an **Impact Pitch** demonstrating how you are *Powering Your Community*. This may include volunteer service, leadership roles, service projects, school or community initiatives, or other meaningful efforts that reflect a commitment to helping others.

Applicants must choose **ONE** of the following approved formats:

Option 1: Written Impact Pitch

- 400–550 words
- Submitted as a PDF or Word document
- Must be original work created specifically for this scholarship

Option 2: Video Impact Pitch

- 2–3 minutes maximum
- Submitted as an MP4 file
- Applicant must appear on camera for at least part of the video

Production quality is not scored. Clear communication, authenticity, and content are most important.

Applications submitted in formats other than those listed above may not be considered.

Stage Three: Interview (50 points)

Applicants with high scores from the first two stages will be invited to a live or virtual, if needed, interview with our scholarship committee. This is your chance to share your personality, expand on your pitch, and answer questions about your aspirations.

How to Apply

Submit your application and pitch electronically to **ChristinaS@mwpower.org** with the subject line: **2026 Scholarship Application – [Your Full Name]**

Important Dates:

- **Application Deadline:** April 2, 2026
- **Interview Notification:** Emails granting interviews will be sent on April 9, 2026
- **Interviews Held:** The week of April 20, 2026

Please keep these dates in mind to ensure your availability for all stages of the process. We look forward to seeing your application!

Eligibility:

All 2026 high school graduates residing within the Mt. Wheeler Power service territory are eligible to apply for the ‘Powering Your Future’ scholarship from Mt. Wheeler Power.

How Applications Are Evaluated

Applications are reviewed using a scoring process that considers the following:

- **Community Impact**
Demonstrated involvement and meaningful contribution to a community, organization, or cause
- **Alignment with Cooperative Values**
Reflection of service, leadership, cooperation, and concern for community
- **Communication & Clarity**
Ability to clearly share ideas and experiences using the chosen format
- **Authenticity & Originality**
Genuine, original work that reflects the applicant’s personal voice

Production quality and design are not scored. Content, effort, and sincerity matter most. Scholarships will be awarded based on the combined total score from all three stages.

Tips for a Strong Scholarship Application

Complete and Thoughtful Application

Take time to fully complete every section of the application. Incomplete, vague, or rushed responses may reduce your chances of being selected. Provide clear, honest, and detailed information that reflects your experiences, goals, and interests. Be sure to submit your application by the stated deadline.

Draft your responses, review them carefully, and revise as needed. A strong application is clear, well-organized, and free of grammatical errors and plagiarism. All work must be original and created by the applicant.

Create a Meaningful Impact Pitch

The Mt. Wheeler Power scholarship recognizes students who demonstrate service, leadership, and commitment to their community. Your **Impact Pitch** is your opportunity to share *your story*. Focus on impact, not perfection, you do not need professional equipment or design skills. Simple, clear, and honest submissions score higher than flashy ones.

Be sure your pitch addresses:

- What community, organization, or cause you are involved with
- The role you personally play
- How your involvement has made a difference
- How your efforts reflect the cooperative value of **Concern for Community**
- How you plan to continue giving back in the future

Choose the format that best highlights your strengths, and follow all submission guidelines, including word limits and time requirements.

Preparing for the Interview

Finalists will be invited to participate in an interview with the scholarship committee. This is your opportunity to expand on your application, share your goals, and let your personality shine.

To prepare:

- Review your application and Impact Pitch so you can speak confidently about your experiences
- Practice answering common interview questions with a friend, family member, teacher, or mentor
- Think about your strengths, goals, and future plans, and how this scholarship supports them

Preparation will help you feel more confident, comfortable, and ready to succeed.

Final Tip

Be yourself. The scholarship committee values authenticity, service, and a genuine commitment to community. There is no single “right” story, we want to hear *yours*.



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Scholarship Application

Personal Information:

- Name
- Mailing Address
- Telephone Number
- School Name
- E-mail Address

Application Questions:

1. **Your Spark:** What are you most passionate about, and how has it shaped your high school journey?
2. **Future Vision:** Where do you see yourself in five years, and how will this scholarship help you achieve that vision?
3. **Powerful Leadership:** Provide an example of a time when you took the lead in a project, challenge, or event. What did you learn about yourself?
4. **Mt. Wheeler Connection:** How has Mt. Wheeler Power contributed to your success or impacted your community, and how will you give back in the future?
5. **What Makes You Shine:** Is there anything else you want the committee to know about you?

We are excited to see how you're "Powering Your Community." Submit your application along with your impact pitch to ChristinaS@mwpower.org with the subject line: **2026 Scholarship Application – [Your Full Name]**

Deadline: April 2, 2026