

TRIO Student Support Services Scholarship
Dr. Christine Thelen Scholarship
Application Form

Deadline	11:59 pm (Central Time) Sunday, September 21 st 2025	Award	\$ 123.00
Requirements:			
Scholarship will be awarded based on the following three criteria: 1. Must be a TRIO Student Support Services Participant 2. Academic Achievement ○ Minimum of 2.0 cumulative GPA required ○ Must be enrolled part-time or full-time for Fall 2025 3. Financial Need			
Instructions:			
• APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED (Section 1 and Section 2) • Fill Section 01: Demographic information - Provide and certify demographics, and Financial Need Statement. • Fill Section 02: Estimated Costs and Income - provide the estimated cost of attendance for Fall 2025 and your income. • Fill Section 03: Essay and Participation - See rubric for scoring criteria. • MUST FILL SECTION 01, 02, 03. OTHERWISE, APPLICANT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. • Application must be submitted through the following Link: https://www.wichita.edu/services/student_support/TRIO_SSS_Scholarship/scholarship_application.php **NOTE: Scholarship awardees will be contacted via email within two weeks after the deadline. If you have any questions, please email us at trio.sss@wichita.edu			
Qualifications:			
• Essays must be typed, double-spaced, with Times New Roman font, 12-point, and limited grammatical errors (Section 03). • Each of the essays must follow the rubric posted on the Current SSS Students webpage and included within this application form. • Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm (Central Time) on Sunday, September 21st, 2025. • Write an essay on the provided question, essay must be at least 1 ½ - 2 pages.			
Disqualifications:			
• Submission of an incorrect Scholarship Application. • Late or incomplete applications will be disqualified. NO EXCEPTIONS. • Incomplete Applications—missing and/or duplicate essays, incomplete entries on application form. • Essays that had complete or partial use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) from any online website like ChatGPT or similar will be disqualified immediately. All applications will be scanned through an AI Detector.			

SECTION 01: Name and Demographic Information

Name			
	<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>
Preferred Name		myWSU ID	
Shocker Email		Phone	
Major (and minor):			
I certify the information I am providing on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand this application is subject to review and verification. I also understand that providing or using fraudulent information, or any other form of AI assistance, will result in <u>immediate disqualification</u>. If I am a recipient of a scholarship, I agree to participate in various program promotional activities and submit a thank-you letter to the donor.			
Applicant eSignature		Date:	
Provide a compelling explanation of your financial challenges with specific details and clearly show how the scholarship will ease those burdens and support educational success. *			

SECTION 02: Student's Estimated College Cost and Income for Fall 2025 Semester

Instructions:

We encourage you to view your individual financial information through your [myWSU account](#) under the **myFinances** tab. For information on Wichita State University's Tuition and Fees, visit the [Tuition and Fees website](#) for per-credit-hour costs.

Cost	Amount	Income	Amount
Tuition	\$	Estimated Family Contribution (FAFSA)	\$
Fees	\$	My Savings	\$
Books/Supplies	\$	Scholarships	\$
Equipment	\$	Grants	\$
Room and Board	\$	Job or Work Study	\$
Transportation	\$	My Federal Ed Loan (Perkins/Stafford)	\$
Personal Expenses	\$	Parent PLUS Loans	\$
Others	\$	Other Loans	\$
	\$	Other Resources	\$
Total Cost	\$	Total Available Income	\$

SECTION 03: Essays		
		18 - 24
Instructions:		Scores
- Essays must be between 1 ½ - 2 pages long <i>or a maximum of 475 words</i>. - Follow the rubric posted on the Current SSS Students webpage and also listed below.		
Essay:		
In addition to a completed application form AND meeting the requirements: REQUIRED: Write and submit <u>ONE</u> essay by responding to <u>the following</u> question: Q. Tell us how you plan to use your degree to create positive change in your career, your family, or your community. Your essay must follow the rubric posted on the webpage and must follow the instructions listed on the scholarship application. NOTES: - If you are applying for more than one endowed scholarship, <u>you cannot duplicate essays.</u> - Answer your questions by providing relevant examples. Participation Points will be awarded as bonus points to current SSS students who refer new students to the SSS program, who meet with their SSS advisor on a monthly basis, and who attend SSS workshops.		

Criteria	Excellent (5–6)	Satisfactory (3–4)	Unsatisfactory (0–2)	Score
Clarity & Depth of Response	Provides a clear, thoughtful, and in-depth response that fully addresses the question. Demonstrates strong insight, reflection, and originality.	Responds adequately to the question with some reflection or insight but may lack depth, detail, or originality.	Response is vague, incomplete, or off-topic. Little to no evidence of reflection or critical thought.	
Connection to Goals, Values, or Growth	Explains growth with specific examples (e.g., leadership, academics, personal). Identifies past goals achieved and clear future goals. Describes steps towards achievements. Connect goals to long-term plans and TRIO support.	Mentions some goals or personal growth but lacks detail or examples. Goals are vague about achievement or future steps. Connection to long-term aspirations or TRIO is not clear.	Provides little or no explanation of goals, values, or growth. Goals are missing, vague, or unrelated to education.	
Use of Examples & Evidence	Provides clear, specific, and relevant examples (academic, personal, TRIO, community, etc.) that illustrate experiences or points.	Includes some examples, but they may be general, limited, or lack detail.	No clear examples or evidence; relies only on vague statements.	
Writing Mechanics & Organization	Essay is well-structured, coherent, and flows logically. Minimal (1–2) grammar/spelling/punctuation errors.	Essay has some structure but includes noticeable errors. Transitions are unclear. Multiple grammar/ spelling/ punctuation errors affect readability.	Essay is poorly organized, confusing, or contains frequent grammar/spelling/punctuation errors, or obvious use of AI is detected.	

Scoring:

- Maximum number of points overall: **24 points**

Student: _____

Assessor: _____

Date: _____

Total Score: _____ / 24

SECTION 04: Advocacy/Participation Points

Please provide information on your advocacy & participation within the last year for bonus points.

A	Have you ever referred a student to the SSS Program?	Yes		No	
	List the name(s) of the student(s) you referred				
B	Have you attended your monthly advising appointments?	Yes		No	
	Who is your Advisor?				
C	Have you participated in any of the monthly workshops?	Yes		No	
	If so, which one's?				
D	Did you write a letter, an email, or make a phone call to Kansas Representatives to advocate for TRIO programs?	Yes		No	