

The background of the page is a photograph of a young woman with dark, curly hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a dark green button-down shirt over a white top and a necklace with a circular pendant. Her hands are resting on a desk with a notebook. The image has a yellow and green color overlay on the left side.

Public Service Pathways Scholarship

Public Service Pathways Scholarship

Ready for a career with purpose, benefits, and work-life balance?
Passionate about public service and making a difference in your state?

The Florida League of Cities (FLC) is committed to empowering future civic leaders and is offering up to five \$5,000 scholarships for students considering impactful careers in public sector work. FLC's Public Service Pathways Scholarship is designed for students like you who are ready to shape a brighter future through municipal government careers.



WHAT WINNERS RECEIVE:

Recipients not only earn financial support but gain exclusive opportunities for career growth, including a job shadow day with city leaders and access to a network of civic-minded peers.

ELIGIBILITY:

To qualify, applicants must be enrolled in an accredited bachelor's, master's, or doctorate program administered through a Florida-based campus (including online programs) by spring or summer of 2025, with continued enrollment during the fall of 2025.

Qualifying students must submit a completed application, official transcripts, resume, and two letters of recommendation by May 1, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. to be considered for these awards.

Applicants will also complete an introductory municipal government e-course and write an essay on which part of the course was most impactful and why.

Official transcripts must be received from the university. Universities can email official transcripts to scholarship@flcities.com or mail them to FLC at P.O. Box 1757, Tallahassee, FL, 32302-1757.

To apply, please visit flcities.com. For questions regarding the scholarship, contact staff at scholarship@flcities.com.

SELECTING RECIPIENTS:

The scholarship recipients will be selected through a review process led by a volunteer committee appointed by the Florida League of Cities President. The committee will carefully assess each applicant's qualifications, commitment to public service, and understanding of municipal government. The committee's assessment will include an evaluation of the applicant's completed application, official transcripts, resume, two letters of recommendation, and essay. In June of the award year, finalists will be invited to attend virtual interviews with the committee. Following virtual interviews, finalists will be notified if they have been selected as scholarship recipients.



Public Service Pathways Scholarship Program Policy

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PURPOSE

To provide educational support for students with an interest in public sector work and improving the lives of Floridians through municipal government careers.

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ELIGIBILITY

Enrollment in a bachelor's, master's, or doctorate program administered through an accredited Florida-based university or college (including online programs) by the spring or summer of the award year, with continued enrollment during the fall of the award year.

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CRITERIA

- A. Stated interest in pursuing a career in public sector or municipal government work
- B. Demonstrated commitment to higher education and strong academic achievement
- C. Involvement in community and/or extracurricular activities
- D. Favorable letters of recommendation
- E. Favorable personal interview reflecting the values and dedication needed to build stronger communities through a career in municipal government

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AWARD

- A. One-time scholarship of \$5,000
- B. Job-shadowing opportunity with city leader(s)
- C. Access to a network of civic-minded peers

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SELECTION PROCESS

The scholarship recipients will be selected through a review process led by a volunteer committee appointed by the Florida League of Cities (FLC) President. The committee will carefully assess each applicant's qualifications, commitment to public service, and understanding of municipal government. The committee's assessment will include an evaluation of the applicant's completed application, official transcripts, resume, two letters of recommendation, and essay, which must be submitted no later than May 1 of the award year. In June of the award year, finalists will be invited to attend virtual interviews with the committee. Following virtual interviews, finalists will be notified if they have been selected as scholarship recipients.

The selection committee may not award scholarships to FLC directors, officers, or senior managers, or their family members, or to members of the committee, or their family members. Scholarships may be awarded to FLC employees and their family members so long as the employee is not a member of the selection committee, an FLC director, officer, or senior manager, or a family member of a selection committee member, an FLC director, officer, or senior manager.

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DISBURSEMENT AND USE OF FUNDS

Scholarship awards will be disbursed directly to the recipient(s). Recipients will be issued an Internal Revenue Service form 1099 reflecting scholarship award payment. Each recipient is responsible for determining any income reporting/tax filing requirements related to receipt of the scholarship award.

Additionally, by receiving a scholarship disbursement, each recipient agrees that the scholarship funds will be used for educational purposes consistent with the scholarship terms. Scholarship awards should be used for tuition, fees, or course-related expenses, such as books, supplies, and equipment required to enroll in a bachelor's, master's, or doctorate program at an accredited Florida-based university or college.

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RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

The Florida League of Cities will retain the name and address of the scholarship applicants, recipient(s), amount paid, and a copy of the Florida League of Cities Public Service Pathways Scholarship Program Policy for the award year, reflecting the purpose of the scholarship, eligibility requirements, and criteria used for selection. Additionally, application materials of the scholarship recipient(s) and signed agreements by the recipient(s), if any, will be maintained. These records will be kept for at least three years after the scholarship disbursement.