

1. Attach a recommendation from a member of the college or university staff who has knowledge of your desire to go into the field of education and who can speak to your qualities that would make you an effective educator.
2. Submit your transcript including the fall semester for the 2025-2026 academic year, which shows a grade point average of 2.7 or better.
3. Respond to the following essay topics. The last one is optional. Each essay should be one to two paragraphs in length. Some of the judging criteria will be organization of thoughts and development of ideas.

- A What are you doing to support your goal of becoming an educator both in and out of the classroom? Discuss relevant and meaningful coursework as well as any volunteer or paid activities.
- B Reflect on your personal growth since high school as well as what draws you towards teaching. Please share insights and experiences which illustrate this.
- C (OPTIONAL) If you have experienced financial need or any other particular challenges you think would be useful for us to be aware of, please indicate that here.

- I intend to continue my studies to pursue either a degree in education or a minor in education.
- I also give permission for any pictures, videos, etc., of me to be used for publicity by Fairfax County Retired Educators for the Ford Foundation Scholarship.

Student Signature

Date

Print Name

Application and attachments to be postmarked no later than
March 26, 2026

and mailed to Phyllis Rittman, Scholarship Director
Fairfax County Retired Educators
PO Box 682
Springfield, VA 22150-0682