



Scholarship Application for School Year 2026-2027

Project Youth Educational Services (Y.E.S.), Inc. is dedicated to supporting high school graduates who have excelled academically and demonstrated outstanding commitment to extracurricular activities and community service. We achieve this by providing academic scholarships for their post-secondary education at accredited colleges, universities, or other educational institutions.

Available Scholarships: (Only one Award per applicant per scholarship period):

- 1. Project Y.E.S., Inc.**
- 2. Grace Baptist Church (GBC) Kenneth McFarland Legacy**
- 3. April Strong in Excellence**
- 4. A Future and A Hope**
- 5. Michelle Carter Technical School and Community College**

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Project Y.E.S., Inc. Scholarship Details

Project Y.E.S., Inc.

The Project Y.E.S., Inc. Scholarship seeks to empower and honor those students who exemplify a dedication to both their academic pursuits and their commitment to making a positive impact on their community or church. This scholarship is an opportunity for deserving students to receive financial support while furthering their education and continuing their meaningful contributions to their communities. Eligible applicants must have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 and a strong record of extracurricular involvement in their community or church activities.

Recipients of the Project Y.E.S., Inc. Scholarship will be awarded \$500.00 per academic semester for two consecutive years (four semesters), with a limit of \$2,000.00.

Grace Baptist Church Kenneth McFarland Legacy

The GBC Kenneth McFarland Community Service scholarship was established to commemorate the enduring legacy of Reverend Kenneth McFarland, a distinguished figure known for his unwavering dedication to community service, civic engagement, Christian ministry, and youth empowerment. Eligibility for this scholarship requires applicants to have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 and a strong record of exceptional service to their community or church demonstrated through community service.

Recipients of the GBC Kenneth McFarland Legacy scholarship will be awarded \$500.00 per academic semester for two consecutive years (four semesters), with a limit of \$2,000.00

April Strong in Excellence

The April M. Strong Memorial Scholarship, was established in memory of Mrs. April Strong, a respected educator and community leader. This prestigious scholarship honors Mrs. Strong's legacy of encouraging personal growth and academic achievement, providing deserving students with financial support for their education. This scholarship requires a minimum G.P.A. requirement of 3.5 and rewards students who demonstrate excellence in academic and community involvement.

Recipients of the April Strong in Excellence Legacy Award will receive \$750.00 per semester for two consecutive years (four semesters) with a limit of \$3,000.00.

A Future and A Hope

The "A Future and A Hope Scholarship" was established by Raymond and Cynthia Cornog to promote academic success and increase future opportunities for African American students to reach their highest potential. It is designed to invest in and help students by: a) reducing financial barriers to higher education and b) Increase African American representation in professional and technically skilled roles. Eligibility for this scholarship requires applicants to have a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0, a strong record of exceptional service to their community or church and Henry County residence.

Recipients of the "A Future and A Hope Scholarship" will receive a one-time award of \$2,500.00.

The Michelle Carter Technical School/Community College Award

The Michelle Carter Technical School and Community College Award was established by Michelle Carter to support Technical School and Community College students. This is a one-year scholarship for scholars planning to enroll in a two-year Community College program or a Trade school. Eligibility requires applicants to enroll or plan to enroll in a two-year program or trade school, have a 2.5 or better GPA, and demonstrate passion for post high school education at a technical school or community college.

Recipients of the Michelle Carter Technical School and Community College Award will receive a one-time award for \$500.

Application Guidelines

1. **DEADLINE** to submit the scholarship application online through the Project Y.E.S., Inc. website is **Saturday, January 31, 2026, 11:59 p.m.** Paper copies of the applications can be dropped by the Grace Baptist Church office no later than 5:30 p.m. on **Thursday, January 29, 2026**. The Church Office is closed on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Mailed applications must be **postmarked by 31 January 2026**. Late applications will not be considered. (**no exceptions**).
2. If any question/statement does not apply to you in this application, please put "N/A" in the space.
3. Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will not be considered. (**no exceptions**).
4. Submit application on the Project Y.E.S., Inc. website. <https://www.projectyesatl.org>.
5. This application will be used to determine eligibility for the selected scholarship. Applicants can only apply for one scholarship.
6. Applicants will be contacted no later than **March 13, 2026** to schedule an interview with the Scholarship Interviewing Team.
7. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact projectyesinc4youth@gmail.com, (770) 474-8611 or (470) 588-2126.

Eligibility Required Criteria:

1. The applicant must be a graduating high school senior in the year of the award.
2. The applicant must demonstrate positive impact and involvement in school, community, and/or church as determined through this application process and with letters of recommendation.
3. The applicant must have a minimum unweighted G.P.A. of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for the Kenneth McFarland, Project Y.E.S., Inc and Michelle Carter Technical School/Community College Scholarship awards; a minimum unweighted G.P.A. of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for April Strong in Excellence Scholarship award and a minimum unweighted G.P.A. of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) for the A Future and A Hope Scholarship award.
4. The applicant must be accepted by or enrolled in an accredited college/university or other post-secondary educational institution. (Verification must be presented before any funds will be disbursed)
5. The applicant must attend two March Madness workshops hosted by Project Y.E.S., Inc. (March 2026)
6. The scholarship recipients must maintain the following G.P.A. during each academic semester to receive the subsequent installments of their scholarship:
 - a) 2.5 for GBC Kenneth McFarland Legacy or Project Y.E.S., Inc. Scholarship
 - b) 3.5 for the April Strong in Excellence Scholarship

Application Process - Incomplete applications will not be considered (**no exceptions**):

Applicant must submit the following items:

1. Submit completed application form.
2. Photo (black/white or color) – can be either a head shot or full body.
3. An official (signed) and current high school transcript showing G.P.A.
4. Essay. (*Please see Page 4 for essay prompts and requirements*)
5. Standardized Test Scores (SAT or ACT). (Based on the college application requirements).
6. Two (2) SIGNED letters of recommendation for the Project Y.E.S, Inc., and Michelle Carter Technical School/Community College and April Strong Scholarships or three (3) SIGNED letters of recommendation for either the GBC Kenneth McFarland Legacy or the A Future and A Hope Scholarships from a combination of the following:
 - a) School - a high school teacher or counselor on school letterhead
 - b) Community - an employer, community member, club sponsor, coach, individual, etc. with significant knowledge of applicant's character, experience, and involvement. (*Please Note: Applicants must provide two Community letters if applying for the GBC Kenneth McFarland Legacy or A Future and A Hope Scholarship with verification of the number of community service hours completed.*)
 - c) Church - a pastor, deacon, youth leader, or another leader or member of your local church (*Please Note: not required but could provide verification of extracurricular and community involvement*)
- d) Letters of Recommendation may NOT come from family members.**

NOTE: Once eligibility is established, Scholarship funds will be awarded in two parts each academic year, at the beginning of each Fall and each Spring semester of enrollment/attendance at an accredited college/university, technical school, or other post-secondary educational institution. (**Verification must be presented before any funds will be disbursed**)



In 350-500 words essay format, answer the following questions for the scholarship you are applying for:

Project Y.E.S., Inc.

Describe your personal journey with education. Your essay should include answers to the following questions/events:

- How has your educational experience shaped your perspective on life and your future goals?
- A significant moment or event in your educational history that had a profound impact on your understanding of the importance of education.

Grace Baptist Church Kenneth McFarland Legacy

Describe a significant community service project you have been involved in and explain how your involvement in community service has contributed to your personal and academic growth. Your essay should include answers to the following questions:

- How did you identify the needs of the community, and what steps did you take to address them? Explain the impact your efforts had on the community and on yourself.
- In what ways have your experiences influenced your future goals and aspirations?

April Strong in Excellence

Describe what excellence means to you personally and share a specific instance where you faced challenges but ultimately achieved excellence. Your essay should include answers to the following questions:

- How do you define excellence in your academic, personal, and extracurricular pursuits?
- What did you learn from this experience, and how has it shaped your perspective on success?

A Future and A Hope

Describe what academic success looks like and how this scholarship will help you achieve your future goals and encourage others to achieve success.

- How do you define success in your academic and personal life and what drives you to succeed?
- How can your pursuit of academic success encourage and inspire others to reach their potential?
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Michelle Carter Technical School and Community College

Describe what pursuing your life goals looks like and how hard work and dedication are critical to your success.

- What are your long term goals?
- How will attending a trade school or community college help you achieve your goals?



Scholarship Letter of Recommendation Guidelines

*****ATTENTION STUDENTS*****

Please provide copies of this page to individuals who will write your letters of recommendation.

Dear: School Official/Community Representative/Church Member:

This student, _____, has applied for a Project Youth Educational Services [Y.E.S.], Inc. Scholarship for the school year 2026-2027.

To fairly consider and evaluate this applicant, please submit a letter of recommendation. Your comments must be detailed and specifically address, but need not be limited to, the following items:

1. Address the scholarship the student is applying for. It should not address internships or other non-Project Y.E.S., Inc. scholarships.
2. Does the applicant perform up to his/her academic ability? Provide your observations of the applicant's actions in the academic environment.
3. What leadership qualities does the applicant demonstrate? Please give specific examples.
4. Comment on the applicant's involvement in extracurricular school activities, including any offices held.
5. Comment on the applicant's involvement in community and/or church activities.
6. Comment on the applicant's plans to achieve his/her career goals.

Please address all five areas listed above to the best of your ability based on your personal experience with the student. For employers and/or church members, please comment on the student's work ethic, dependability, spiritual development, and anything else that you believe would be beneficial to accurately paint a positive portrait of the applicant.

Please write your recommendation on an official letterhead if you are a school and/or elected official & community representative. Email or place your letter of recommendation in an envelope and return it to the applicant who will submit it with his/her application.

All letters of recommendation must address the Project Y.E.S., Inc. scholarship the student is applying for and must accompany the applicant's application packet.

Very truly yours,
Scholarship Programs
Project Youth Educational Services [Y.E.S.], Inc.



Application for School Year 2026-2027

Select one Scholarship to apply for:

- ☐ Project Y.E.S., Inc.
 ☐ GBC Kenneth McFarland Legacy
 ☐ A Future and A Hope
 ☐ April Strong in Excellence
 ☐ Michell Carter Community College and Trade School

Last Name: _____	First Name: _____
Mailing Address: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
Daytime Telephone Number: () _____ Date of Birth: _____	
E-mail Address: _____	
List Colleges/Institutions to which you have already applied (you may submit your list on a separate sheet):	
I have been accepted by the following schools in the <u>Fall of 2026</u> :	
I will be attending the following school in the <u>Fall of 2026</u> :	
Proof of acceptance or current student enrollment from the above school is required prior to disbursement of ALL funds.	
Grade Point Average (GPA): (Unweighted 4.0 scale) Attach proof of GPA; your most recent official school transcript is required.	
ACT Score: _____ Or SAT Score: _____	
Mother's /Guardian's Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Cell/Work/Home Phone: _____	
Father's /Guardian's Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Cell/Work/Home Phone: _____	
What area/specialty do you plan to major in as you continue your education?	



Application for School Year 2026-2027

Briefly share your educational and professional goals and objectives. (Use a continuation page if more space is needed.)

List awards, honors, and special recognitions you received while in high school. (Use a continuation page if more space is needed.)

Please describe any of your community and church involvement. (Use a continuation page if more space is needed.)

Please describe any of your academic and school involvement. (Use a continuation page if more space is needed.)

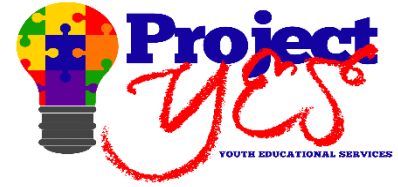
STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that my photo may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the Project Youth Educational Services [Y.E.S.], Inc. Scholarship Programs.

I hereby understand that (1) if chosen as a scholarship recipient and (2) to remain eligible, I must provide evidence outlined/articulated in the eligibility requirements and the application process connected to my enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds will be disbursed.

Signature of Scholarship Applicant: _____ Date: _____

**Before You SUBMIT Your
Application, Remember to
Check EVERY BOX and Submit
Every Item on the Checklist**



Application for School Year 2026-2027

APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST

**(You must submit every item on this Checklist
unless designated as optional)**

Application

Resume

Photo

High School Transcript (Official)

Essay (Based on appropriate scholarship prompts)

Standardized Test Scores (SAT or ACT) (Based on college application requirements)

Letter of Recommendation from High School Teacher or Counselor (as applicable)

Letter of Recommendation from Community Member/Employer/Coach/ Club Sponsor (as applicable)

Letter of Recommendation from Active member of Grace Baptist (or affiliated) Church Sponsor (as applicable)

Attend March Madness workshop hosted by Project Y.E.S., Inc. (Due before funds are dispersed)

1. The deadline to submit an **electronic** application is **January 31, 2026, 11:59 p.m.** Please submit applications to **projectyesinc4youth@gmail.com**.
2. **Hard copies** of the application must be received at the Grace Baptist Church Office, 2178 Highway 138, Stockbridge, Georgia 30281 by Thursday, **January 29, 2026**. The Church Office is closed on Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday.
3. **Mailed copies** must be postmarked by January 31, 2026. Applications received outside of these dates will **not** be considered. (**no exceptions**)

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact **projectyesinc4youth@gmail.com**, (770) 474-8611 or (470) 588-2126.

Each qualifying applicant will be scheduled for an interview with the Scholarship Interviewing Panel. Failure to appear for the scheduled interview will result in disqualification of the applicant. **If awarded a scholarship, the recipient must continue to meet all eligibility criteria requirements contained in the award notification letter in order to receive the subsequent disbursement of funds.**



Continuation page. List question that you are answering.



Continuation page. List question that you are answering.



Continuation page. List question that you are answering.



Continuation page. List question that you are answering.



Continuation page. List question that you are answering.



Continuation page. List question that you are answering.