



Technology First Scholarship Application Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must have at least sophomore standing (30 semester hours) at his/her respective university or college and currently be enrolled as an undergraduate student as defined by the applicant's institution. Students with previous completed undergraduate or graduate degrees are not eligible.

Must be able to prove that his/her major's relation to the information technology field. Approved majors include but are not limited to the following: information technology, computer systems, computer science, computer information systems, management information systems, and industrial/computer engineering, cybersecurity, business analytics, business intelligence, data science.

Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum major GPA of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale at the date of submission.

Must have a strong interest in pursuing an IT career in Southwest Ohio or the Tri-State area.

Must be a permanent resident of or attend a North Central accredited degree-granting college within the Southwest Ohio region including Adams, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Greene, Hamilton, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren counties.

Must have a graduation date at least one year from scholarship interviews. Interviews are typically scheduled in the first week of April.

Financial need, character, and personal work ethic will be important selection criteria.

Application Requirements, Deadlines, Interview, and Award

Complete Applications must include:

1. A PDF copy of your transcript(s) or official college documentation of your GPA. Documents will be accepted that are printed directly from your on-line college portal. If you have credit hours from multiple colleges, please provide a PDF copy of all college transcripts. A complete PDF of all transcripts.
2. A letter of recommendation from your college/university faculty on college letterhead or a recommendation from a current or former employer.

3. The [application](#) with all questions answered.
4. Applications must be submitted in the required format. Incomplete applications or applications not submitted in the mandated format will be rejected without review.

Application Submission:

1. Please submit application, transcripts, and letters of recommendations from faculty/staff or others electronically here. [Apply](#).
2. All documents **must be received by 5:00 pm on the 4th Friday of March** for the application to be considered.

Interview:

Students must be available for a short interview with the selection committee. If we received a completed application and you are a finalist for the scholarship, you will receive an to set up your time slot.

Students must be early or on-time for their interview or they will forfeit their interview slot and will be disqualified. In case of an emergency, please call the Technology First office at 937-229-0054.

Possible interview questions to prepare you:

- 1) What is it that you enjoy about IT or the technology industry? Why are you interested in pursuing this career field?
- 2) What are your career goals? Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years?
- 3) What activities are you involved in outside of your studies? How do you manage your time between studying and these activities, specifically what techniques do you use?
- 4) Plans to stay in Ohio, Dayton region?
- 5) Would you like to play a leadership role in the IT field in your future career? If so, what type of role would you like to play, and why?
- 6) Why do you deserve this scholarship? What distinguishes you from the other perspective scholarship recipients?

Award Notification:

Selected students will be notified by email within a week of their interview.