

Bulldog Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Avery Casey Today's date 3-30-26

Mailing Address: 3 River Rd Apt B

Your city/town: Benton Zip Code: 04901

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Steven R & Debra Casey

What school do you attend? Lawrence What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Sianni

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

2026

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Schools:

Lawrence Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

Skowhegan Savings Bank

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by April 3, 2026. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

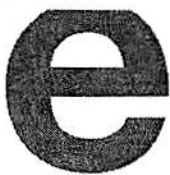
Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite letter and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a career and lifestyle that would make you especially proud? Why would it make you proud? Identify one or several colleges* (broadly-defined) that you think might be especially good for you. Given your interests and experience, why do you think this college or colleges would be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other current or former high school or college* student about their pathway to and through high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: The College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about one or more colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for your future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college student about their pathway to and through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your Opportunities Beyond. Write about your aspirations, about two or more colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and about what you are doing today to help you pursue your aspirations. Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of that interview, what you learned from the interview, and what you might like and dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

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Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
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To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Avery is very observant and notices when people are treated differently or poorly for being different. She has been an active participant in marches & protests organized by Indivisible Mid Maine and is conversant on current events. She is inquisitive about how government works. Avery is also very interested in performance arts and studies ballet and theatre. She hopes to attend the Maine Arts Academy for JH and HS.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

April 3, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for taking the time to consider Avery's application. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Avery this year and I am truly blown away by what a social justice powerhouse she is. It is not only refreshing to encounter a student who is so informed about the world, but inspirational as well. Avery and I have enjoyed some serious conversations together during inside recesses and in the afternoons before dismissal. She has a thirst to understand the workings of government and systems of power unmatched by anyone her age and in many cases, people much older than her. She has a heart for the underserved and oppressed and one day, this will make her an excellent Civil Rights lawyer. I am confident that the world will be a better place when Avery has the opportunity to fulfill her dream and fight for society's underdogs. In the meantime, however, I'm happy to have the chance to be her teacher.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chelsea Sionni".

Chelsea Sionni
Sixth Grade Teacher
Lawrence Elementary

1. My favorite letter is A because it's the first letter you learn. It's important because it will always be first and it will never change.

2.

Avery's Law Career

"I have a dream" -Martin Luther King. Yes, I have a dream. Hello, my name is Avery Casey. I go to Lawrence Elementary school in Benton, Maine where I live with both my grandparents and my fifteen year old sister. My dream in the future is to be a human rights lawyer. From a very young age, my grandpa always taught me it's important to stand up for my rights especially in the world we live in right now. I think it's very important for young women or women in general to have a voice so this profession is very important to me personally. You're probably wondering what I'm doing right now to use my voice. Well, I do protests, I read important materials, documents and articles, and I always say something when I strongly disagree with someone. These characteristics are important for a human rights lawyer to have.

To be the most dependable human rights lawyer, it was important for me to do my research about what degrees I would need and what colleges I will be considering. In my research, I found out that I will need a Bachelor's Degree and a Juris Doctor Degree. When choosing a college, I looked for reliable websites and good reviews and also programs like dance because it's another passion of mine that I would like to pursue in the future or fashion design because it's such an artsy way to express yourself without words. I also looked for somewhere in the New England area because I would like to stay close to home. Therefore the colleges that I am considering consist of Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Boston College in Boston, Massachusetts, the University of Maine School of Law in Portland, Maine, and the Massachusetts School of Law in Woodland Park, Massachusetts.

After my research on different colleges, I decided that the University of Maine School of Law in Portland, Maine and Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts are best for me. I think the University of Maine School of Law would be the best fit for me because it's closer to home. It's also in Portland, a city, and I really enjoy city life. The school is ranked the 88th school of law and I think

that's pretty great. Although the school doesn't have programs for dance and fashion design, I believe this school is great for me. In addition, I love that the school is small so I can experience hands-on learning and get the best education. My second choice for my college is Harvard University. This school is in Cambridge, Massachusetts. I love Massachusetts so that's one reason I would love to go to Harvard, but another reason is that it's ranked the 3rd law school in America, which is great because again I want the best education. I also love the campus from the nice dorms to the beautiful outdoor areas. I love the amount of history flowing through the campus and Massachusetts in general so that's why I chose those two colleges.

After looking at my possible college choices, I looked at courses I will need to take to be a human rights lawyer. Some of the courses I saw first consist of Civil Procedure Law -Law 613, Criminal Law-Law603, and Constitutional Law-Law620. In Civil procedure I will learn how to read legal materials and how to use the information in a factual situation. Secondly, in Criminal Law I will learn to understand that criminal justice is a system. And finally, in Constitutional Law I will learn to understand questions of constitutional law. With that put aside, before I go to college I would like to do something to get ready to be a human rights lawyer so I did some research and I found out I can join debate clubs to learn how to argue my opinion. I also can join a mock jury trial club so I know what the environment a lawyer has to be around and what a lawyer does in a courtroom. I think that these little things to do before going to college will really help me get a start on my career.

To learn more about the dynamics of being a lawyer, I interviewed Edward Holt, a former lawyer who is now a fifth grade teacher at Lawrence Elementary School. In my interview, he taught me a little more about law that most people don't know. One thing I learned is that not all cases are easy. You might win a case and might not be right in the situation, but you have to learn to get up and move on even if it's hard. Another thing he taught me is that being a lawyer means many hours not just in a court room but talking to your client, reading articles and making decisions which can take over your life, but if you really have a love for helping people then you will really benefit from this profession. The third thing he talked about was that law school and being an actual lawyer are way different from each other and it's a little step I should be aware of when going into law. Last but not least I learned that there is a fifty-fifty chance you are going to win a case but

you have to try your best because a lawyer is a problem solver. Anyways a big takeaway I took from this interview was that being a lawyer can be hard work but when it is your passion to help people and to try to fix injustices and you are willing to work hard, you will really benefit from being a lawyer.

Thank you for your time. As you probably know, helping people and fixing problems is my dream and I'm beyond grateful to get the opportunity to write an essay to help push this dream further for the future. I'm so happy this program exists so future generations can have the same opportunity as me. I enjoyed writing this essay. It helped me know more about the little things about law that most people don't know and I'm excited to pursue this career further so thank you again to the panel of judges for the Future of Maine and for making this program possible.

Bulldog Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Wyatt Therrien Today's date 03-26-26

Mailing Address: 27 N Mitchell Rd

Your city/town: Troy Zip Code: 04987

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Tonya and Christopher Therrien

What school do you attend? Lawrence What grade are you in? 4th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs Kori Whited

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Nyatt is such a cool kid. He is so uniquely himself. He has so many interests and is such a well rounded kid. What's super cool about him is that he is so humble about himself while also being confident in what he's great at. He'll never brag, but he is very talented in all areas. He's wonderful and works incredibly hard, always.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Please see attached

Student Name: Wyatt Therrien
Parent/Guardian Name: Tonya Therrien
School: Lawrence Elementary School
Grade: 4
Date: March 29, 2026
Future of Maine Essay – Parent Statement

Wyatt is an all around great kid - he is kind, hardworking, and has a one of a kind sense of humor. He often has his parents, classmates, and teacher laughing out loud at his jokes, antics, and facial expressions. Wyatt wants to do well in everything he does and works hard to persevere when things get tough. He has learned a lot this 4th grade year about how to believe in himself and has grown tremendously in his self-confidence.

Wyatt is his own worst enemy and when mistakes are made he takes them straight to heart - this pressure on himself has shown up when taking tests in school, learning something new, playing basketball and baseball - however the one place where he is totally relaxed is the racetrack. I often tell people who have seen him being hard on himself that they should see him in his racecar because he is a totally different person.

Wyatt has been racing since he was 5 years old and the first time we saw him get into a Jr Dragster we were amazed - it was like he had been doing it for years. We fully believe it is in his blood. He is the most focused, patient, responsible, and hard working racer - the very best version of himself! He takes complete ownership of working on his racecar, warming it up, getting in his fireproof suit and gear - the only thing we help him with is buckling him into his 5 point harness and wrist straps. He practices tirelessly to improve his burnouts and reaction times - sometimes doing 3 or 4 extra runs down the track when all the other kids have quit for the day. Wyatt often amazes people when we tell them he is only 9 and goes 70mph as he competes against 12 to 17 year olds.

I have zero doubt that his intense focus, determination, work ethic, and overall absolute LOVE for racing will take him to the Top Fuel world if he chooses that path. He is an amazing kid and an incredible racer - I can't wait to see all that he accomplishes (even if it's him going 300mph and scaring me half to death).

My favorite letter is J because it is the first letter of Junior Dragster. My best friend's name is Jayden and Jayden starts with J.

Top Fuel Drag Racer Wyatt Therrien

I've been a drag racer since I was five years old. I was so small I could barely see the track over my windshield. My grandfather had to bolt two 1 inch blocks onto my gas pedal and my brake pedal so I could reach my pedals. My mom had to lift me in and out of my Jr. Dragster because I was too short to get in and out on my own. I had to ride to the dragway in a booster seat but when I got there I could drive on my own and go 53 mph. When I grow up I would really love to be a Top Fuel Drag Racer and go 300mph every single day.

My dream is to be the fastest top fuel drag racer in the world by breaking Brittany Force's speed record of 343.51mph. I would be the most famous top fuel drag racer in the world. John Force has 16 world championships and I would like to win 17 or more world championships. I would be proud because I would have been very focused and worked really hard in what I was doing. I would also have to persevere to get that far and win so many world championships. When I become a Top Fuel Drag Racer I will get to do my favorite thing every single day.

I would like to go to the University of Northwestern Ohio because it is a good college to learn about motorsports. I can learn all about drag racing and how to control the dragster. I can also build them and make them run better and faster. UNOH has clubs for you to be in and one of those clubs is the Drag Club which I would like to be in. They have a Motorsports Team where I could build and race my own car and compete with other drag racers. Going to the University of North Western Ohio to learn about motor sports would be a lot of fun.

The High Performance Motorsports Technology program would teach me everything I need to know about drag racing. I could take courses like Custom Engine Building and Ignition Systems. These courses would be helpful because they would help me get faster and better at rebuilding my own engine if something breaks. I would also need to get my NHRA Super Comp License to become a professional top fuel drag racer. To be as good as Brittany Force I would need to build muscle to control the drag car, work on mental focus to stay calm in the drag car, and work on my hand eye coordination to make quick decisions in the drag car. The High Performance Technology Program would help me become the best Top Fuel Drag Racer in the world.

When me and my classmates interviewed the Lawrence High School Students one of the questions I asked them was, "What is the most challenging part about high school?" They said to keep up with your work. So if I keep up with my work when I go to high school I won't get bad grades. If I don't get bad grades I am more likely to get into my college. Another question I asked them is, "Do you play any sports?" They said basketball, baseball, soccer, and football. Sports help you work on athleticism and work as a team. So, I know that I have plenty of sports when I go to high school. The advice that they gave us was helpful for us to be successful.

Maybe you will see me in about twenty years on TV as the fastest Top Fuel Drag Racer in the world. You might even see me on TV as the most famous Top Fuel Drag Racer with 17, or maybe even 18, world championships. If I win this scholarship I would use the money to buy parts for my future Top Fuel Dragster. I would buy parts like pistons and the springs for the motor. Maybe I would even use some of the money to buy parts for my Jr Dragster right now. Thank you for taking the time to read my essay.





Washington County Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Jaxson Schofield Today's date: 4/20/20

Mailing Address: Water st.

Your city/town: Eastport Zip Code: 04631

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Sheila Lank

What school do you attend? Eastport What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Kayla Kelley

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 0 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

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Schools:

Eastport Elementary School
Calais Elementary School
Edmunds Consolidated School

Aspirations Partners:

Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
First National Bank

Sonja Hicks

Maine College Circle

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2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



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To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Jaxson worked hard on figuring out what he could possibly want to do with his life. He was happy to finally pick a welder. Jaxson works well with guidance. He can do anything he puts his mind to!

—ms. Kelley

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as all formal educational programs after high school. We do this to help students recognize that all these programs can be equally valuable and that students can be equally proud of pursuing them.

Jaxson Schofield
Eastport Elementary School

My favorite number is 0. I like the number 0 because it is nothing, and I like nothing. I feel like 0 represents my interests.

Jaxson Schofield
Eastport Elementary School
Aspiration Essay

My aspirations for my future is to be a welder. I would like to be a welder because they can make good money. To become a welder it takes around 2 years which sounds good to me. I am not a huge fan of going to school so I would rather get a degree and get out into the workforce, and make money.

The educational program that will help me pursue my aspiration is Welding Technology. I think I would like to go to Washington County Community College in Calais. The information for this program says "Graduates of the welding technology program may find employment in shipbuilding, fabrication, construction, mechanical and maintenance industries." I think I would like to do construction or shipbuilding. I really like that I would only have to take welding classes, not things like English and Math. I will take some classes in high school to help me prepare, like an Industrial Arts class. I will also take science classes like physics and chemistry. I might try to even take a Welding class that is in Calais.

I interviewed a welder. They said if you are in high school you could go to a welding class. Like for me, when I get to Shead high school I can travel to Calais high school and hopefully take a welding class there. He also said it is important to have a plan and don't just go to school without a plan for the future. I think I will like the pay the most. They get paid pretty well. I think I will dislike the other works the most because I don't like to be around other people very much.

In conclusion, I would get paid pretty well. I think I will dislike the other works the most. I don't like to be around other people very much, so I hope I can work alone and just do my welding.

Bulldog Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: ERIC NICKENSON Today's date 4-2-2026
Mailing Address: 4 Pearl Street
Your city/town: Clinton ME Zip Code: 04927
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Jessica Decosier
What school do you attend? Lawrence Elementary What grade are you in? 4
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs Collins Daignault
How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 0 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

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Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

Eric worked very hard on this essay. He made his desire to be a bus driver very clear. He is certain that he will be the best bus driver and I believe him!

-Rebekah Collins

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Since Eric was Three years old he has shown interest in continuing his education after grade school in the form of Driving. This passion was influenced by his grandfather who Drives Big Rigs for a living. Even with us telling him he may change his mind in the future he would stubbornly tell us no he wouldn't

My name is Eric. I live with my parents and my pets. I go to Lawrence Elementary School and I am in fourth grade. I want to be a bus driver. I want to be a bus driver because my favorite thing to do is open the door and window of a bus. Also, I will get to see a lot of people. I will be good at this job because I am helpful. I will watch out for trains.

I would like to go to Central Maine Community College or Northeast Technical Institute. I will get my CDL license. I will learn about safety, rules of the road and driving. I want to live close to home. It is only a 2 month program.

Right now I will pretend to drive a bus. I already know what the buttons on the bus do. I can get more used to noise.

This winter some high schoolers came to my school. They told us to join sports. One piece of advice was to meet people. They also said not to be a bully. I learned a lot from the high schoolers.

In conclusion, I want to be a bus driver. My first choice school is Central Maine Community College. I like this school because it is close to home. The program is only 2 months long. I would be an excellent bus driver because I have learned from my school bus driver Robin.

My favorite letter is B because it stands for bus. It is also my favorite letter because it stands for my friend Bennett and birthday.

Somerset Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Cade Mitchell Today's date 3/9/26
Mailing Address: 265 Steward Hill Rd
Your city/town: Skowhegan ME Zip Code: 04976
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Emily & Josh Mitchell
What school do you attend? MCSHS What grade are you in? 4th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? _____

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 0 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.maine.collegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Margaret Chase Smith Community School
Skowhegan Area Middle School
Mill Stream Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

Skowhegan Savings Bank
Franklin Savings Bank
Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **March 19, 2026**. All parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? You could refer to the *Aspire River Hawks Postsecondary Readiness Planner*. And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

Cade is one of the hardest working students I have had. Although school is hard and he struggles, he never give up on anything or himself. He perseveres and always tries his best with a fantastic attitude

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Cade is a great kid. He works very hard. He really

enjoys being outside and playing sports. He wants to be an underwater welder when he gets older. He will be great at that. He enjoys doing things outside.

Cade Mitchell

College Essay

Mrs. Collins

When I grow up I want to be an underwater welder. This career would be a great fit for me because it has good pay. Hands on and welding is fun. I enjoy going under water too!

For me to be an underwater welder, I will need to have some important skills. I need to have craftsmanship and attention to detail with what I'm working on. I also need to be physical and mentally strong to do this job.

I think I will be a great underwater welder because I weld at my house and I'm really good at it. I am passionate about building stuff and I like to do things on time.

I want to attend Kennebec Valley Community College. Close to home, less expensive tuition. My brother went to KVCC as well. I will have a flexible schedule for work.

I had the opportunity to interview an Ed tech at my school who is a student at kvcc. I learned from Noah that you college online on your own schedule.

My favorite number is 11 because it is my basketball number. Also, I turn 11 next year in 5th grade. I'm excited to turn 11.

MDI

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Cameron Webber Thurston Today's date 3/25/26

Mailing Address: 40 Freeman Ridge Rd ME

Your city/town: Southwest Harbor Zip Code: 04679

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Briana Thurston, Adam Thurston

What school do you attend? Pemetic Elementary What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly): Bonnie Norwood

2026

P2

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members at the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org.

Schools:

Connors Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

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MGF +

All applications must be received by **March 27, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be submitted by the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship to pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

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Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

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Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

Cameron had trouble visualizing the future and it took him quite a while to jump into this project. Once he decided that lobstering was it... he took off.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

See attached recommendation

Southwest Harbor, ME
Cameron Thurston
Pemetic Elementary School, 6th grade
Teacher: Mrs. Norwood
March 26, 2026

My favorite number is 0 because there is no good number but Zero means nothing.
It has "Z" in it amazing and a funny word.

Southwest Harbor, ME
Cameron Thurston
Pemetic Elementary School, 6th grade
Teacher: Mrs. Norwood
March 26, 2026

Commercial Lobstering

Imagine waking up before the very first rays of the sun light, the Moon is setting as you're prepping the boat for the long day ahead of you. The career I am currently interested in is commercial lobstering and I just described the morning of a lobster crew. If for some reason you don't know what commercial lobstering is, normal lobstering is for recreation and commercial lobstering is for profit. I am interested in this career because my Dad is currently a commercial lobsterman and my grandfather was a commercial lobsterman. The reason I want to be a Commercial Lobsterman is because that would make me the 3rd Thurston Lobsterman in a row!

I'll tell you how I need to do my job. Basically I go out on the boat with some bait and look for one of my orange, white, and black buoys' bobbing in the waves. Once I locate my buoy, I haul it up out of the water. I then open the trap and throw all the short lobsters, crabs, star fishes, and other things that aren't needed. One by one, I check if the lobster is a female and if there are eggs. If there are eggs then I have to make a V-shaped cut on the tail so other lobster men don't keep it. All female lobsters get thrown back in so that lobster reproduction continues. If the lobster is a male, I measure it and throw all of the ones that are too small and ones that are over 5 inches back into the water. All of this sorting and selection of lobsters helps maintain a steady lobster population. After sorting the lobsters I open the sack in the trap and re-fill it with fresh bait and move onto the next buoy. The skills that are needed are seamanship, technical skills, physical stamina and strength.

The education that is required for obtaining a Commercial Lobster licence is apprentice ship, safety training, knowledge and skills, and lastly licensing. The school I am interested in going to is Washington County Community College (WCCC). I am interested in this program because it's 1 to 1.5 hours away from where I live, and it offers a "Business of Maine Lobster" program. The amount of time the training will take is a minimum of 24 months, logging every time I go fishing over the span of two years.

The interests or talents that I have that connect with this profession are: the first time I remember going out on my Dad's boat is when I was like 2 to 4 years old I think, I just like water and swimming and pouring water in and out of cups, I know how to catch lobster but I already said that. This career will help others by giving them yummy lobsters to eat, boil, stew, fry, saute, cook, bake, steam, and roast to make a perfect dish.

I will start working towards my goal of being a Commercial Lobsterman now by researching, reading, and training. I can also start asking more questions of my Dad and what it's like being a lobsterman. After writing all this, I realized just how much work I put into this. With the hours that I did researching and reading, I know that now I can appreciate all things I do, even if there are just little things. In the end I hope you think that this is a great essay and I appreciate your time it took to read this, thank you.

3-2026

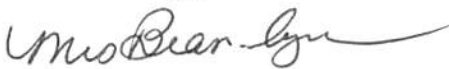
To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Cameron Thurston's goal to become a commercial lobsterman.

Cameron's intelligence and sense of logic will serve him well in the fishing industry. I believe that working for himself in this complex industry would also suit him. Cameron's father is a harbormaster and commercial lobsterman, so the "rules of the water" are familiar ideas he has grown up with.

Cameron could succeed at many different career paths, but this idea makes a lot of sense for him. He would become the 3rd generation in his family to make a living from the water, and daily connections are important to Cameron.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mrs. Bean-Ingram".

Mrs. Bean-Ingram

Pemetic School

MDI

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Anriel Pease Today's date 4-10-26

Mailing Address: 251 Cranberry Road

Your city/town: Cranberry Isles Zip Code: 04625

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Kimberly Bennett

What school do you attend? CIS What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ashley Greenleaf

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Schools:

Conners Emerson School
Mount Desert Elementary School
Tremont Consolidated School
Pemetie Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

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To the applicant:

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1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

***Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond.** Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

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Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

I disagree with her effort rating, teacher. Ari is an exceptional student. She works so hard in school and has to overcome challenges to get to school each day and try her best. Ari has incredible work ethic, creativity, and drive. I am so excited about her future. She's going to make a great teacher.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Ari is an incredible friend to her peers and will be a compassionate teacher!

Auriel Pease
April 20, 2025
Scholarship Essay

1. My favorite number is twelve because that is how many students I want to have in my classroom when I become a teacher one day.

2. My aspiration for the future is to become a teacher. My goal is to teach elementary school. I enjoy teaching little kids. I go to a multi-age island school. I am the oldest in my school, so I often help the littles. In order to be able to become a teacher, my goal is to attend the University of Maine at Farmington.

I would like to go to the University of Maine at Farmington because it is the best teaching school in Maine. My school went on a field trip to Farmington last fall. We toured the college. I even met some professors at the college, and they were all really nice. We did some fun activities in the library with college students who are in school to become teachers. Meeting them made me feel excited about becoming a teacher. I am excited about living in a dorm and attending classes.

My teacher printed out some teaching classes that UMF offers. She had me go through and circle the ones that I am interested in. There were many that I was interested in. The first one is EDU 125 - Becoming a Teacher. This one interested me because I want to be a good teacher so the kids I am teaching can learn, have fun, and achieve their goals. The next one was EDU 277 - Topics in Education. This one interested me because I want to learn about different things in education. The third one was EDU 303 - Children's Literature. This one interested me because I enjoy reading nice picture books and I want to show the kids I am teaching how fun it is to read. The fourth one is EDU 404 - Design and Technology in Elementary Education. This one interested me because I am interested in showing kids how to learn and use new things. We have coding robots at our school. You can design and name the robots. You lay down differently colored tiles to tell the robot to go different ways. For example, the green tile means go, the red tile means stop. Just like traffic lights! I enjoy using technology as a student. I think I will enjoy learning how to use it as a teacher. The last class I circled is EDU 422 - Reading, Writing, Language Arts, and Children's Literature in Grades 4-8. I want to take this class so I can teach students how to write neatly and well, so they can write good essays when they get older. I also want to help teach kids how to read books. I enjoy reading books, and I want to pass that on to my students.

I talked to one of my teachers named Ms. Ashley about teaching. I asked her for advice on a good college and I asked her what I would like about teaching. She told me that I am a good leader, helpful with other students, and creative. She said that will get me far in life, especially in teaching. We talked about behavior management in teaching. I even gave her some ideas to use. One of them is a call and response. The other one is a hand gesture. Ms. Ashley thinks I will be a great teacher and she is excited about my future.

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

☒ I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

☒ I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

☒ I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

☒ I am quite sure.

☐ I think.

☐ I am not sure.

☒ My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

☒ I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

☐ I worked fairly hard on this application.

☐ I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

☒ I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

☒ My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

☒ I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

☒ I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

☒ I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

☒ I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- ☐ I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☐ I have identified five high school or college courses or activities that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- ☒ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☒ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☒ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☒ I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student Anniel Pease

Teacher Ashley Greenleaf

Future of Eastern Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Magnolia Carleton Today's date 3-2-26

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1043

Your city/town: Northeast Harbor, ME Zip Code: 04662

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Amanda Carleton, Fredrick King

What school do you attend? MDES What grade are you in? 6th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Ms. Kerry Taylor

2026

MD 3

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Pemetic Elementary School
Trenton Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

First National Bank
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Maine College Circle

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Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of Eastern Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	(5)	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	(6)	7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school:	1	2	3	4	(5)	6	7
Effort on this application:	1	2	3	4	5	(6)	7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Magnolia Carleton

Teacher Comment:

Magnolia is a kind and empathetic individual who makes the effort to reflect on herself and others. A reserved and quiet student, Maggie is very observant of human nature and spends time watching how people interact with each other. In this way, she works to make our classroom a comfortable place for all. She is also a strong all-around student who takes the extra time and effort to do her best, keep an open mind, and learn new things.

Parent Comment:

I have always known that Magnolia would grow up and choose to devote her life to others. She has the biggest heart and has always shown such kindness and empathy towards others, even as a small child. Initially I was unsure about Magnolia's choice of career for her Essay, strictly because as a mother it's my job to shield and protect her from such things. Although alcohol and substance abuse is all too common, it is also ugly and heartbreaking. We come from a small town where there are more addicts than not. We have also been affected by family members who have chosen that life in the past. I have worked hard to shield her from these things which is why I was so apprehensive about her choice. Then I read her essay, seeing it through her eyes and hearing it in her voice turned something ugly and painful into something inspiring and hopeful. Not only does Magnolia have a beautiful mind, strong will, determination and thirst for knowledge. She also has the patience, understanding and enormous heart it takes to dedicate her life to something like substance abuse counseling. Magnolia already shows such strong work ethic whether it's school work, science and engineering club, band, helping out at the restaurant I manage in the summer or volunteering at the Neighborhood House. Her volunteer work is so important to her and the children she works with adore her as well as the staff. I admire the way she balances her schedule and honors each of her commitments. I know that no matter what Magnolia chooses to do she is going to conquer. This world and our future is so lucky to have her, she is going to do amazing things and be the change that we so desperately need.

Helping the World in a Different Kind of Way

By: Magnolia L. Carleton

Five: My favorite number; it's everywhere you look. It's like the sand on a beach that's between the road and water, right in the middle.

Since I was little, I've always wanted to help people, but I didn't know how. I used to think that a nurse or a doctor would be a good fit, but soon realized I can't handle the bodily functions or fluids that come with those jobs. I went on to think about a social worker, but after a bad experience with one, I soon decided that I wouldn't enjoy that either. When I got a little older and started to understand what drugs and alcohol were, I was fascinated by how they could affect our daily lives and our brains. I was also fascinated by how they can negatively affect someone's life, especially if they have an addiction. I really hope that I can study and pursue this career because I want to help people who struggle with addiction!

"Recovery is about progression, not perfection" -Bill W.

I remember going to this house when I was little; it was my mom's friend's and her husband's house. They had a son around my older brother's age, whom I used to play with a lot, but he's a story for another time. I remember the lady's husband being kind of scary looking, but the sweetest person ever when you talked to him. I always had mixed feelings about him since he was like 3 feet taller than me. When we moved, I never really talked about that family since there was no reason to. But a couple months ago, I heard my mom talking to my stepdad about that family. The father had died from both drugs and alcohol because he overdosed. I paused and let myself process this information. When I was little, I remember him never drinking when my older brother and I were around, so I was shocked. This makes me want to become a substance abuse counselor even more, so I could potentially save innocent lives like his.

"Healing takes courage, and we all have courage, even if we have to dig a little to find it." -Tori Amos

I want to become a substance abuse counselor because I could help people get back with their families and/or fix their lives. To become a substance abuse counselor, here are some things I could do in high school to up my chances: take a nutrition class, take psychology classes, volunteer at rehab places, take typing classes, and help with the suicide and crisis hotline. Some things I'm doing now are: taking notes in health class related to drugs and alcohol, talking to people I know who've used drugs and overcome them, and I'm working on my empathy and listening skills. These are some of the ways I'm getting ready to become a substance abuse counselor and trying to pursue this career.

"Recovery begins from the darkest moment." -John Mayor

Once I graduate from high school, I want to attend James Madison University. This school is great for people who want to study psychology and counseling, which are two areas I need to become a substance abuse counselor. It is located in Harrisonburg, Virginia with a large campus and school pride that will never die down! James Madison offers a Psychology and Counselor Education program. With this program, I would take these classes: Advanced Developmental Psychology, Practicum, Counseling Process, Crisis Intervention Strategies, Counseling Theories, and Counseling Techniques. Crisis intervention strategies cover the theories and techniques of crisis intervention; some specific topics are group and individual interventions and trauma informed community. For an advanced class, I could do Advanced Developmental Psychology, which is an overview of "the theories, research, and applications that are relevant to the development of behaviors and mental processes throughout the lifespan." After I take these classes, I'll start my path to becoming a substance abuse counselor.

"Recovery is hard. Regret is harder." -Brittany Burgunder

I interviewed Kip Young, who works in substance abuse. He told me about how he never wanted to be a substance abuse counselor until his late 20s, when he went to a rehabilitation center and was inspired to help people who have gone through the same thing as him. I asked him what he wanted to be when he was younger, and he wanted to be a rockstar. I giggled a little bit at the thought of him becoming a famous rockstar! He told me that he had to take a supervised 12 course function. For his test, he had to contact the counseling board, and soon he was on his way to a small room for a 150 question test! The interviewer tried to get him mad, but he stayed calm and completed the test. A few weeks later, he received a letter....he passed!!! He told me that he loves his work and his greatest accomplishment is writing an article on medicated recovery. When asked to describe his day he said, "Well, I usually arrive half an hour early to look at people's charts and notes from previous days. I usually try for a lunch break, but it doesn't always happen with such a busy schedule! There's also lots of listening, typing, and paperwork included in this job, but I don't mind!" I ended the interview asking what I can be doing now. "Welp, the only thing I can give you is to work on typing and start researching!" We said our goodbyes before ending the interview. He made me want to become a substance abuse counselor even more!

"The best view comes after the hardest climb." -anonymous

In conclusion, being a substance abuse counselor would be good for me. I've watched people's lives get saved with counseling, and I want to do that too! Being a substance abuse counselor would mean the world to me. I've always loved to help people, but never knew how. But now I know! Thank you for reading my essay and considering my application to become a substance abuse counselor.

*"People often say motivation doesn't last. Neither does bathing.
That's why we recommended it daily." -Zig Ziglar*

Moose River Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Amelia Seavey Today's date 12/7/25

Mailing Address: P.O. box 165

Your city/town: West Forks ME Zip Code: 04985

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Laura Seavey Charlie Seavey

What school do you attend? Forest Hills School What grade are you in? 4th

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Hall

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 0 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Forest Hills School

Aspirations Partners:

Skowhegan Savings Bank
Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **January 30, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)

Grade 7: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Identify five college* or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for the future. Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 **6** 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 **6** 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

Amelia gives great effort in all her work. I love that she brought out her sense of wonder.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Expectations Checklist, Jackman

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026

To be completed by the student

☒ I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

☒ I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

☒ I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

☒ I am quite sure.

☐ I think.

☐ I am not sure.

☒ My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

☒ I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

☐ I worked fairly hard on this application.

☐ I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

☒ I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

☒ My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

☒ I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

☒ I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

☒ I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

☒ I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- ☐ I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- ☒ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☒ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- ☒ I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☐ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Grade 7

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☐ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Amelia Searey

Teacher

Chelsea Hall

Amelia Seavey

Grade 4

12/10/25

Favorite Number & Scholarship Essay

My favorite number is 14. That is because for one, my birthday is on July 14. Also, when my dog Dakota died, she was 14.

Did you know that sunsets are blue instead of red on Mars? When I am older, I would like to be an astronomer. I am very interested in space so I think it would suit me. The college I am interested in is Harvard University. One of the reasons I am interested in it is because it is associated with NASA which I am interested in. Also, it has many courses I am interested in such as Radiative Astrophysics, Cosmology, and Space Exploration. Those courses teach things like the evolution of space and the history of space. Those are some of the main things I am interested in. Astronomy interests me because I love to think about the mysteries of space. Also looking at the stars at night makes me think of questions that are yet to be answered. Sometimes it just really gets me wondering.

When I interviewed my friend that is a college student I learned a few things from her about college. She is in college to become a pilot. Before she started college, she took a few courses to prepare herself for college. She also said good advice to get into colleges is to show good effort. She said to especially put effort into high school, so you are ready and know what you need to. She said that that is what she did to prepare herself. All of this is why I want to be an astronomer; it is because of all mysteries about space. So, the next night you see some stars in the sky take a minute to turn off the lights and just admire the mysteries in space.

Expectations Check

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

☒ I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my teacher, and the date.

☒ I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

☒ I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

☐ I am quite sure.

☒ I think.

☐ I am not sure.

☒ My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

☒ I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

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☒ My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

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☒ I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

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Grade 3

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- ☐ I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- ☒ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☒ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☒ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☒ I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☐ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student

Brendan LeBlanc

Teacher

Capital Pell

Mt. Abram Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

2026

Name: BRENDYN LEBLANC Today's date FEB 25, 2026

Mailing Address: 34 PRAIRIE RD (SALEM TWP MAINE)

Your city/town: SALEM TWP Zip Code: 04983

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? ANALYN LEBLANC

What school do you attend? DMRMC What grade are you in? 5

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? MRS. CRYSTAL POLK

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 2 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 1

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 5 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Kingfield Elementary School
Phillips Elementary School
Day Mountain Middle School

Aspirations Partners:

Skowhegan Savings Bank
Maine College Circle
MSAD 58

All applications must be received by **April 1, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite number and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses, or activities you can do before or in college, that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.



Future of Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

Brendyn has thought a lot about life after high school. He has researched several colleges that fit his interests and personality. Brendyn embraced our trip to Colby College. Throughout the process Brendyn has worked hard and has been engaged in learning as much as he can.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Brendyn is an exceptional student. He has a strong work ethic, combined with empathy and a willingness to help others. Because he is a very curious learner who pays attention to details and facts, I believe that he would make an outstanding scientist.

Brendyn

My favorite number is 7 because it's my favorite soccer player's jersey number. Another reason why 7's my favorite number is because it's lucky.

“ Your Opportunities Beyond. Write about your aspirations, about colleges that you think might serve you especially well, and also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of that interview, what you learned from the interview, and what you might like and dislike about that career. “

My name is Brendyn LeBlanc and when I grow up I want to be a space scientist. After high school I'm planning to go to college. The 2 colleges I would like to go to are either Cornell University or the University of Virginia, because I think those 2 colleges would help me out a lot on my journey.

5 classes I would like to take are advanced calculus, quantum mechanics, computer programming, electromagnetism and classic mechanics. I interviewed Chris Magri, he is a professor and a space researcher. He gave me a lot of information about his career which is similar to mine. Something I might dislike about my career is waiting to find something to study because studying things is super exciting. I know for a fact discovering things in space and studying them is extremely exciting, making that something I would definitely like.

One thing I learned from the interview is spiral galaxies. Spiral galaxies are big rotating systems of stars, gas and dust. I find spiral galaxies very interesting because they are actively creating new stars. I want to study planets and their moons. I like looking at planets and learning facts about space. All these things that

make me think being a space scientist is exciting are very true in my opinion. That is why I would like to be a space scientist.

-Brendyn LeBlanc

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Lexi Dionne Today's date: March 3, 2026

* Mailing Address: 671 Beaulieu Rd

* Your city/town: Saint David Zip Code: 04773

* Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): _____

What school do you attend? MES What grade are you in? 4

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Hédon

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 1 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 1

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Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?

2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



2026

Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**
 Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**
 Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 **7**

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

Lexi is an amazing young lady. Her positive attitude brightens our classroom. Lexi has shown so much progress in her learning this year. I love how passionate she is about trucking and working at the family business. I have no doubt that she will get there someday... and be able to take nice warm baths after a day's work!

*To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Lexi's love for her parents has always been apparent. Her Father has always been patient, respectful, present, and emotionally engaged w/ consistent guidance. I truly believe because of this relationship, Lexi finds ^{much} pride in her Father's hard work + dedication to the family business. She has been unwavering in her decision to follow in his footsteps and believes she will be satisfied with her career of taking over the trucking business. And when Lexi sets her sights on a goal, no obstacle will deter her from her path.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-

My favorite fruit is watermelon because it is sweet, juicy, and refreshing on hot summer day. It's also really good if you eat it outside.

Lexi Dionne
March 4, 2026

Do you like trucking? Well, I sure do!!! When I grow up, I want to be a trucker. My interest in trucking today is that I really want to learn about the parts of a big diesel truck. The family business, Clockwise Transport, is on my pepere's land. I would get to see my family everyday. My dad is the person that got me interested in trucking. He always guided me when I didn't know certain things about trucks, but when he taught me more and more about trucking, I started to like it. I would also get to take a nice warm bath because of how dirty you can get, but not every day.

I want to get a degree in Diesel Hydraulics Technology. I want to go to Northern Maine Community College in Presque Isle because it is closer to my family and home. I don't want to be far away from my family. I also want to go there because there is good food in town near the college, and I want to be able to learn how to drive a big diesel truck. Diesel Hydraulics Technology is a two year program. Some of the classes I will have to take are Introduction to Diesel Hydraulics, Engine Rebuilding, Automotive Electricity, and Heavy Equipment Electrical Systems.

We interviewed a college student. A few things we asked her are if she was afraid to meet other people;she told us to not be afraid because you will meet new people and find more friends that fit your vibe. We also asked her why she chose that college;she answered that

it's cheaper and closer to her home. The hospital she wants to work at is the Eastern Maine hospital when she gets out of college. Going to your classes is important and some days are busier than others. She wants to be a nurse to help people. I learned that interviewing college students can help me make my essay better and teach me more about college.

Someday I would like to work at my family's business to be able to fix big diesel trucks. I'm learning more about trucks from my dad, and I can't wait to go to college and learn more.

Lexi Dionne



Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Maxwell Wimbiscus Today's date 3/24/26

Mailing Address: 38 Seaborn Ave

Your city/town: Frenchville Zip Code: 04745

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s)? Sarah and Nate Wimbiscus

What school do you attend? Dr Levesque What grade are you in? 3

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Chantal Blanchette

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 0 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

\$100 Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarships will be awarded by community members to grade 3 - 6 students living in communities served by the schools listed below, and students who best demonstrate effort -- effort to do well in school, effort to pursue education beyond high school, effort to reach their goals, and effort to complete this scholarship application especially well. You are strongly advised to read the "12 Tips" under "Informational Resources" at www.mainecollegecircle.org. If you earn this Aspirations Scholarship, you may also apply for ongoing Ambition Scholarships through 12th grade. These scholarships give you the opportunity to earn over \$5000 or more to help you pursue your aspirations.

Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?

2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2020

To the applicant:

Please assess your level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Your level of effort is minimal. 3 = Adequate. 7 = Your work shows your highest level of effort possible. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

Max is a curious and imaginative student. He works hard to achieve his goals and I have no doubt he will make an amazing naval aviator.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Ever since Max watched the movie "Top Gun", he has aspired to be a Naval Aviator. His curiosity blossomed as he learned the family history of involvement in World War II. He has a paternal grandparent who was a radio man on the army airplanes before his plane crashed and he was taken prisoner of war. And he has a maternal grandparent who was a Naval officer stationed at Pearl Harbor when it was bombed. He has asked questions, watched videos, and observed flights over our house to the small airport in Frenchville. Max works hard in school and beyond and tries to achieve his best at all times. He is a natural leader who often leads by example but is also not shy to stand up verbally for what he believes is right. He would be an excellent Naval Aviator one day.

Aviator
By: Max W.

My favorite fruit is watermelon. I like it because it is juicy. I also like it because it is yummy. I just can't forget watermelon.

Did you know with a little more than 4,000 aircraft, according to the U.S. department of the Navy's 2026 budget, the navy ranked second in the world as the largest air force? It placed behind the U.S. air force which has around 5,500 aircraft as of 2021. I want to be a naval aviator because I want to protect the U.S. I want to fight for peace.

I want to be a naval aviator because I like watching Top Gun Maverick. I also like to watch Top Gun 1. I also like going fast and jets go fast. I like to play security at recess. I like to do sports so if there is an attack you can survive and not die. That is why I would love to be a naval aviator.

I interviewed Max, a high school senior. I learned Max wants to graduate and get a job. I also learned he wants to be a mechanic because his family does it. I learned if he could go back to elementary school he would for a day. That is what I learned from the interview.

I could do more physical activity. I could get good grades because you would be better. I could watch more National Geographic on how to land jets. so I can land a jet. I could go to a shooting range. So I can be better at aiming at a target. That is what I think I could do to help me.

In the future I want to be a naval aviator to protect the U.S. with the armed machines. I want to protect the U.S. I want to be strong to help fight. A naval aviator needs lots of gear including oxygen.

Future of St. John Valley Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Hayden Pellerier Today's date 3-26-26
Mailing Address: 175 South Pellerier Brook RD, Fort-kent, ME
Your city/town: Fort Kent, ME Zip Code: 04743
Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Amy Pellerier - (C) Pellerier
What school do you attend? OLES 33 What grade are you in? 5th
Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Miss Christiana Beaulieu
How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 3 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 1

2026

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Schools:

Madawaska Elementary School
Madawaska Middle High School
Dr. Levesque Elementary School
Wisdom Middle High School

Aspirations Partners:

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 10, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite or least favorite vegetable or fruit and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 3: Your Aspirations. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a great career for you in the future? Why do you think it would be a good career for you? What can you do today to prepare for this career? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school student about their pathway to and through high school. Write what you learned from this interview.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. Write about your interests today and aspirations for your future. What career or careers might fit your interests especially well? Given your interests and career aspirations, which college* or colleges might be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other high school or college* student about their pathway through high school and to college or other educational opportunity after high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: Your College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college* or high school courses or activities before college that will help you pursue your goals for the future. How will the courses or activities help you? And, interview a college* student about their pathway through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your College* Pathway and Beyond. Write about your aspirations. What educational program beyond high school might serve you best as you pursue your career aspirations? Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of what you learned from that interview, including what you might like or dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of St. John Valley

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

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Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. Please circle one number in each category.

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.

Hayden is a very hard working student. He excels at anything he puts his mind to. He's a good leader, and loves to learn.

To the parent or other adult mentor:

Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Hayden is a hard worker

• empathetic

• Leader

• Loves learning new things

Amey Pelletier (parent)

At home and at school Hayden always goes above & beyond what is asked of him, especially if it has to do with his learning. He's always explaining the world around him.

* Maine College Circle defines "college" as one-, two-, and four-year colleges and universities, trade colleges, and other career-specific educational programs after high school.

More Than A Diagnosis

By: Hayden Pelletier

If you would ask me what my favourite fruit would be, it would be Passion Fruit! It's sour and rich appearance is spectacular and amazing!

My aspirations for when I am older are undecided between a lawyer or a neurologist. The reason why I think I would be a good lawyer is because I love arguing with my parents and like helping people when they make a mistake. On the other hand, if I were a Neurologist, I think I would be good at my job because I love caring for people, and I love exploring the brain. The reason why I want those career options is because I want to help innocent people, and help people with Parkinson's Disease. My grandfather did actually battle with Parkinson's. Parkinson's is a life threatening disease in which the nerves disconnect from the brain, and you forget how to swallow, walk, and move limbs.

No matter what, even if I would be one or the other, I would attend the University of Yale. The only difference is if I would be a lawyer, I would go to Yale Law School. If I were a Neurologist, the classes I would take would be the MD program, Residency program, EEG, and Onology. My major would be in biology. If I were a lawyer, the classes that I would take would be, Procedure I, Constitutional Law I, TAR, ILAW, and Administrative Law. My major would be Philosophy.

My whole class interviewed Amanda Pinette, a student of UMFk, and UMPI as well.

I asked her two questions myself. The first question I asked her was, what's your biggest goal in college? She said that she wants to be a 1st grade teacher at DLES. She also said that her other dream is to be a mother. The second question I asked her was, how has college changed you as a

person? She said that it changed her as a person a lot. She learned how to use her time management wisely, and also her future.

The best college for me would be Yale. Either if I was one or the other, I would still have an amazing career. It would take a lot of hard work and toil though. If I would win this essay scholarship this year, it would mean a lot to me. \$100 will be worth it someday. I only won one essay so far. I want to make two! Overall, I will always want to go to college, no matter what.

Bulldog Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship

Name: Allison Stratton Today's date 4/1/2026

Mailing Address: 258 Green Rd

Your city/town: Fairfield, ME Zip Code: 04937

Parent(s) or guardian's name(s): Raeann + Basil Stratton Sr.

What school do you attend? Lawrence Ele What grade are you in? 6

Your teacher's name (spelled correctly)? Mrs. Taylor Moss

How many times have you applied for this scholarship in the past? 2 How many times have you earned this scholarship? 0

2026

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Schools:

Lawrence Elementary School

Aspirations Partners:

Skowhegan Savings Bank

Maine College Circle

All applications must be received by **April 3, 2026**. ALL parts of your application must be completed. Scholarship recipients will be selected and celebrated shortly after the deadline. Recipients may use their \$100 Aspirations Scholarship for educational programs and resources to help them pursue their aspirations. Submitted applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Review Committee and may also be read by a small group of prospective scholarship funders.

To the applicant:

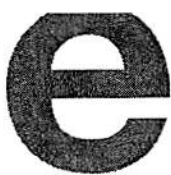
Respond to the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to put your name on separate sheets of paper and attach them to this application. Your application may be handwritten or typed. You must also complete the Future of Maine Scholarship Application Expectations Checklist and attach it to your scholarship application. Scholarship Committees will only consider applications with completed Checklists that are signed by the student and the teacher.

1. In exactly 25 words, what is your favorite letter and why?
2. And, please respond to the prompt that matches your grade below.

Grade 4: Your College* Options. What do you enjoy doing today that might make a career and lifestyle that would make you especially proud? Why would it make you proud? Identify one or several colleges* (broadly-defined) that you think might be especially good for you. Given your interests and experience, why do you think this college or colleges would be especially good for you? And, interview a past Future of Maine Scholarship recipient or other current or former high school or college* student about their pathway to and through high school. Share the most important points of the interview and what you learned.

Grade 5: The College* Course. Write about your aspirations, about one or more colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and also identify five college or high school courses that will help you pursue your goals for your future. How will the courses help you? And, interview a college student about their pathway to and through college* and to a career and lifestyle that will make them proud.

Grade 6: Your Opportunities Beyond. Write about your aspirations, about two or more colleges* that you think might serve you especially well, and about what you are doing today to help you pursue your aspirations. Also interview (or analyze an existing interview of) a person in a field related to a career that interests you. Please share some of that interview, what you learned from the interview, and what you might like and dislike about that career. (Maine College Circle will provide a link to existing interviews if you are not able to set up your own.)



Future of Maine

Aspirations Scholarship

2026

To the applicant:

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Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

To the teacher:

Please assess this student's level of effort in school and on this application. 1 = Low. 7 = Outstanding. *Please circle one number in each category.*

Effort in school: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Effort on this application: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Optional: If you (teacher) wish to write additional comments in support of your student and his or her application for this scholarship, please feel free to do so below or on a separate sheet of paper. That will be helpful, but is not required. *Completed Expectations Checklists are required, must be completed by the student with the teacher's help if needed, and must be signed by the student and the teacher and attached to the application.*

To the parent or other adult mentor:

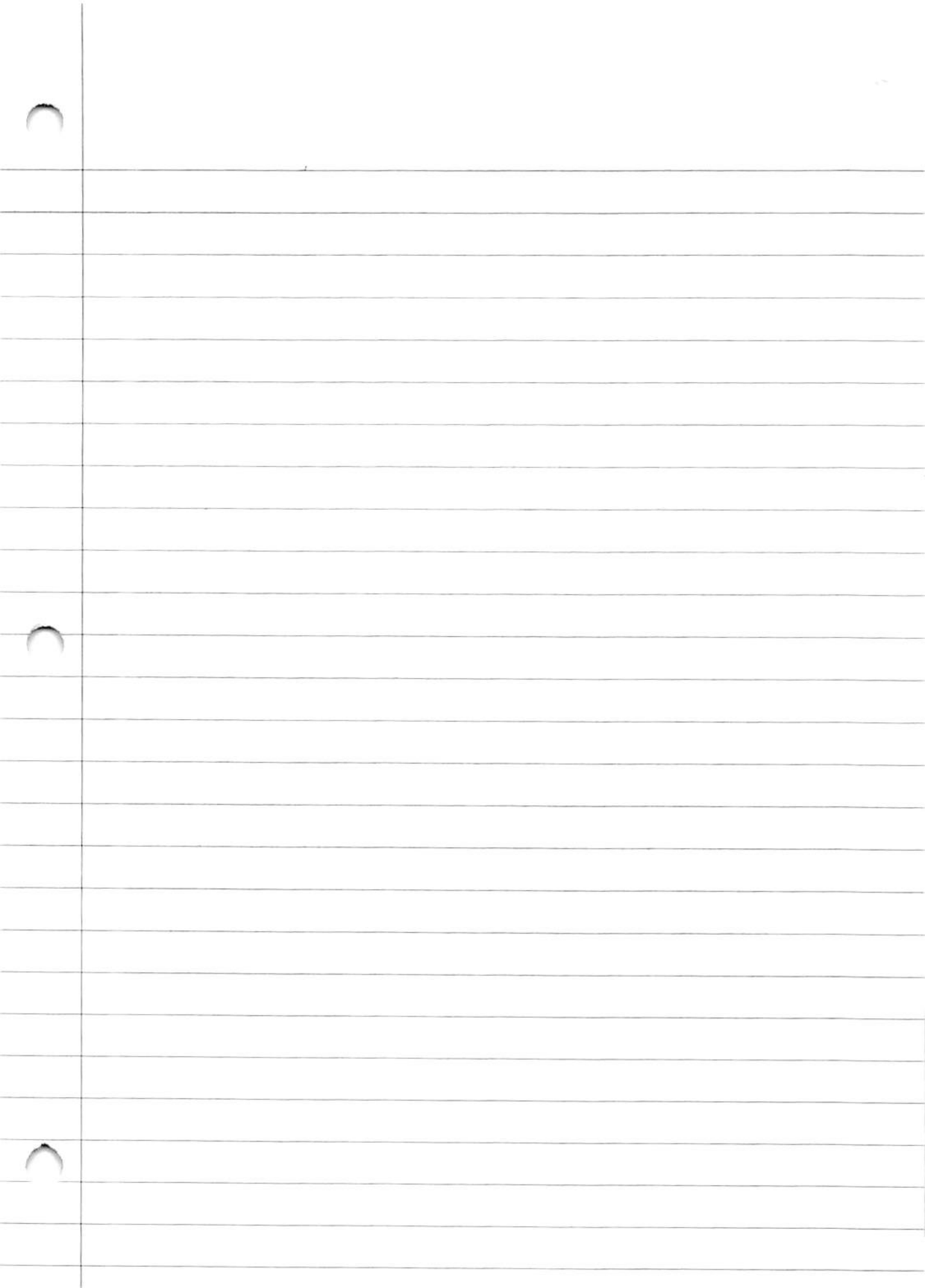
Please add comments to support this student's effort and aspirations for the future, below or on a separate sheet of paper.

Allison has ALWAYS loved cows, any kind of cow. She would always ask to visit local farms to see cows, since a young age. Thankfully we have family that runs a dairy farm close to us. We would visit a few times a year to get her cow fix, mainly trying to pet the calves. Over the past year, Allison has been fortunate to be able to help out on the largest dairy farm in Maine. This has been very exciting for her, not only to be close to cows, but learning all the hard work that dairy farmers do. From helping feed and mucking out stalls, to helping out in the milking parlor where robots

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Continued on Separate Sheet of paper.

automatically milk the cows. She's been
Whitness to Calves being born and the
unfortunate closing of the circle of life,
She has learned that dairy farming isn't
for the faint of heart. Seeing the ups and
downs, hasn't scared her away. She goes any
time she can, no matter the weather, snowy +
cold or hot and humid, she will be there
given the chance. Working on a dairy farm
has been on her bucket list for a long time
and now she been able to achieve that at
a much younger age due to her being mentored
by her older brother's girlfriend, who ~~was~~^{is}
the daughter of the farm's owner, has taken
Allison under her wing and has begun to
teach her the ropes of dairy farming.
With Allison's hard work and dedication to
things she's passionate about, I have no
doubts that her dream of working on and
running a dairy farm will come true.



Allison

Expectations Checklist

Future of Maine Aspirations Scholarship, 2026
To be completed by the student

☒ I have written my name (including my last name), my address, my school, my grade, my teacher, and the date.

☒ I even spelled my teacher's name correctly.

☒ I have written my 25 word response that is exactly 25 words long.

My spelling on this whole application is perfect . . . (choose one)

☒ I am quite sure.

☐ I think.

☐ I am not sure.

☒ My grammar and punctuation are pretty good also. I begin sentences with a capital letter. I end sentences with a period or some other appropriate punctuation. I even capitalize "I" every time I write the pronoun "I."

Choose one.

☐ I am very proud of the effort I put into this application.

☒ I worked fairly hard on this application.

☐ I didn't do as well as I could have on this application because _____

☒ I have rated my effort in school and on this application at the top of page 2.

☐ My teacher has rated my effort in school and on this application on page 2.

☒ I have included comments from a parent or some other adult who knows me well and supports my aspirations for the future.

☒ I have a fun and engaging first sentence.

☒ I have provided some details about my interests that hopefully show that I know something about my interest.

☒ I have made an effort to write this in a way and with a voice that is fun to read and helps the reader know more about me.

Grade 3

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future.
- ☐ I have explained why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me and why it would make me proud.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school student and have written a little about what I learned.

Grade 4

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me and have explained why I think they would be good for me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a high school or college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 5

- ☐ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☐ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☐ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☐ I have interviewed a college student and have written about what I learned.

Grade 6

- ☒ I have written about my aspirations for my future and why I think it would be a good career and lifestyle for me.
- ☒ I have identified one or several colleges that I think would be especially good for me.
- ☒ I have identified five high school or college courses that will help me pursue my aspirations and have explained how they would help me.
- ☒ I have interviewed a professional and have written about what I learned.

Signed:

Student Allison SitationTeacher Jayla Ross

My favorite letter is A like a because it is the first word and I like the look of it. I really like a.

When I was little, my dream was to be a dairy farmer and might just become true one day. My brother had got with his girlfriend and she does dairy farming. One day she asked me if I wanted to go to work with her and I said yes because I love cows and the thought of being a dairy farmer. I went to the farm with her and fell in love with cows ever since. This career is really important to me because I love cows and I want to work with them one day. This essay will include dairy farming, colleges that I have thought about going to, and my efforts to grow up to be a dairy farm.

For my future career I want to be a dairy farmer when I grow up. Some things about farming are you need to be there constantly in case something goes wrong at the farm. You also need to wake up early so that you can get there if something happens. If a calf is born you need to take it out of the pen where the bigger cows are because it might get stepped on and you also need to clear out the pen other than the one who is calving. You also need to be aware if something happens. Some traits you need to have for this career is you need to like cows because if you don't you will have a hard time going around them and being face to face with them. The reason why this career fits my personality is because I love cows and they are really cute. I also have experience at the farm.

I am interested in Duke University and University of Georgia because they are known for having good communication and good courses for dairy farming and dairy science. University of Georgia is located in Athens, Georgia about 70 miles northeast of Atlanta. Duke University is located in Durham, North Carolina. Why these colleges are good fits for me is because my

family goes to Florida every year so they would drive through the state no matter what. I also think that it would be a good fit for me because they are known for dairy science and for dairy farming. I might take Dairy Science, Animal Science, and Agricultural Business because those are all known to help you in the future for when you do dairy farming. I think I will take Agricultural Business because if I have a business with cows I need to know how to run a business.

I want to be a dairy farmer. What this career involves is you need to be patient with the animals and treat them kindly and with respect. The last thing that this career involves is that you have to feed calves if they get born and sometimes the calves are good or something they are really bad. Some skills and traits that are needed in this job is that you need to be on task and working hard and you need to actually like your job and the field you are in. Why this career fits me is because I love cows and they make me happy to be around and I'm patient around them and I'm kind to them.

To start preparing for my aspiration now, I can work on a farm and get hands-on experience but I can also research facts about dairy farming. Something else I can do is work really hard and try to get good grades so I can get into Duke University or University of Georgia because their acceptance rate is a really small chance to get into them because they are really good schools to go to for college and for dairy farming. I wish one day to get into one of these colleges because they are amazing colleges. I am really dedicated to being a dairy farmer because it is one of the things I have wanted to do forever and I will be so happy if I am one when I grow up because I get to pursue my dreams.