

Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemen

Serving the volunteer fire service of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Erie Counties

SwAVF 2026 Scholarship

The Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemen (SwAVF) and its Ladies Auxiliary are pleased to announce its community service scholarship program for 2026. This is open to all high school seniors who will graduate in 2026, and will be enrolling for full time study at an accredited institution of post-secondary study in the fall of 2026. Applicants must be either:

- (a) A member, junior member, Ladies Auxiliary member, or Fire Explorer of a SwAVF member fire department or company -OR-
- (b) Be a child or grandchild of an active member, ladies auxiliary member or exempt member of a SwAVF member fire department or company -OR-
- (c) Be the child or grandchild of an officer, past officer, committee member, life member or annually registered member of the SwAVF or the SwAVF Ladies Auxiliary.

This year there will be one Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemen's Scholarship awarded in the amount of \$800.00 and three SwAVF Ladies Auxiliary Scholarships awarded for \$150.00 each. The three Auxiliary Scholarships will be awarded to the top applicant from each county not represented by the SwAVF Firemen's Scholarship winner. Each Applicant must submit the following:

1. Completed application form.
2. An acceptance letter from an accredited institution of post-secondary education.
3. A letter of recommendation from a school official familiar with both breadth and depth of a student's community service efforts.
4. A second letter from a representative or supervisor of a community service organization attesting to the applicant's volunteer activities.
5. An essay of 300 to 500 words describing the applicant's various community volunteer efforts.

Application forms will be available at www.SWAVF.com on December 15, 2025 and all application packets must be returned by USPS to Kim Heath, Scholarship Chairperson, 9483 Lake Shore Rd., Angola, NY 14006. Applications must be postmarked by April 15, 2026.

Winners will be selected by the Scholarship Committee. Winners will be notified by the Scholarship Committee and will be informed of the presentation of awards at our annual convention. Winners will receive payment upon satisfactory completion of their first semester of full-time study. Please feel free to contact Kim Heath for further information by email at k.heath4278@gmail.com Please see reverse side for application.