

THE STEPHEN PHILLIPS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP

The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund offers renewable, four-year scholarships to students with financial need who display academic achievement, a commitment to serving others, and a strong work ethic.

- Applicants may attend college anywhere in the United States but must be from New England.
- Awards are limited to students seeking their first bachelor's degree at a four-year college in the 2025-2026 academic year.
- Applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to be considered.
- Students should be involved with sustained community service (in school, the community or at home) and have a history of part-time employment.
- Applicants must have financial need. Before beginning the application, applicants should use the financial calculator on the Phillips website to be sure they qualify financially.
 It is our intent to award students with Student Aid Indexes (SAI) of 13,000 or less, although families with special financial situations should call or email to see if they can apply. A student's financial need considers the scholarships and grants in their financial aid award offer; therefore, students need this information to calculate their need. In 2024, 86% of awarded students had parent AGIs less than \$85,000, and 85% of newly awarded students had federal SAIs of less than 6,000.
- Applicants must either be United States citizens or noncitizens with a current lawful presence and work authorization in the U.S.

HOW TO APPLY

Visit www.phillips-scholarship.org for more information about applying for the scholarship and to access the scholarship application. Applications must be submitted using the online form. Mailed applications will not be considered. Begin your online application early enough to be thorough in your responses and to give recommenders time to respond to your requests. Most applicants report spending 1 to 6 hours to complete the application. To complete your application, you will need to upload:

- One formal essay and a few short responses
- Financial Aid Award information from the college or university you plan to attend
- The name and contact details of at least one recommender
- Your 2025-2026 FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS)

Regular Deadline – 12 noon, May 1, 2025.

Applicants will be notified of decisions in late June.

Early Response Deadline - 12 noon April 3, 2025.

Available only to high school students who have the financial aid information from the college they prefer to attend. The first 400 students to submit an application before April 3 will receive a decision before the common reply date of May 1.

2024 Student W-2 Form(s) and 2023 Parent Tax Forms.

These forms may be requested later in the process.



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Dear School Counseling Staff,

Hello from the Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund! Enclosed is information about our current awardees from Maine and the application process for the 2025-2026 academic year.

For the 2024-2025 academic year, **Phillips' new and renewal awards total over \$4.9 million, including over \$470,000 being awarded to Maine students** (\$135,500 to new recipients and \$337,500 to renewing scholars). Each awardee's scholarship is based on individual financial need.

Please see the enclosed list of high schools where our new and renewing Maine recipients attended along with their current colleges.

2025-2026 Application Process:

- The enclosed "How to Apply" instructions and listing of criteria may be copied to share with students. Translations to Haitian Creole, Khmer, and Spanish can be found on our website. Also included is a poster to be used in your office (this can be accessed from the Recommender section of our website along with a digital kit to be used in your social media posts.)
- New applications (which are completed online) will be linked on the website <u>www.phillips-scholarship.org</u> in December 2024.
- New applications are due at noon on May 1, 2025. For high school students seeking a response before committing to a college on May 1, applications submitted by noon on April 3, 2025, will receive an early response at the end of April.
- Please call or email with your questions: 978-744-2111 / staff@spscholars.org.

Thank you for all the wonderful work that you do to help your students with the college search process!

Sincerely,

The Phillips Scholarship Staff P.O. Box 870, Salem, MA 01970 <u>staff@spscholars.org</u> www.phillips-scholarship.org