

Roberta K. Eichler Heart of Gold Scholarship

2025 Scholarship Application Information



The Roberta K. Eichler Heart of Gold Scholarship is named for the longstanding Executive Director of the Stamford Volunteer Center. These two \$5,000 scholarships are awarded annually to support and promote the continuing education of outstanding student volunteers from the Stamford community.

ELIGIBILITY

- Candidates must be high school seniors who are Stamford residents and/or attend a high school in Stamford.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Students must demonstrate:
 - *Volunteer Experience*: Active participation in one or more volunteer events/projects over the past two years.
 - *Dedication*: Outstanding participation, commitment, and dedication to volunteerism.
 - *Leadership*: Exhibits leadership qualities through volunteer activities
 - *Financial Need*: Based on household income and family size.
- For a copy of the scoring rubric used by the Scholarship Committee, please see **page 2** of this packet.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- **Completed Application Form**
- **Student's High School Transcript**
- **Letter(s) of Recommendation:**
 - At least one letter of recommendation by a supervising staff member of the nonprofit agency where the student volunteers, religious institution they attend, other supervising person related to the volunteer service, or their high school guidance counselor or teacher.
 - Letters should highlight the student's volunteer commitment, leadership qualities, and other relevant attributes.
 - Letters may be submitted directly by the recommender to Victoria Scofield via email at heartofgoldcommittee@unitedwaycwc.org or mailed to the address below (**postmarked by March 25, 2025**).
- **(Optional) Supplemental Materials:**
 - Awards, certificates, photos, or other items showcasing your volunteer work.

KEY DEADLINES AND TIMELINE

Date	Activity
February 5 th	Applications open
March 25 th	Application due date; Mailed applications must be postmarked by this date
Week of April 21 st	Selected candidates invited for half-hour interviews.
April 30 th	All candidates will be notified of application decision
Date TBD	Scholarships presented to students at a short presentation ceremony.

HOW TO SUBMIT MATERIALS

- **Online Submission:** Submit via the UWCWC website <https://www.unitedwaycwc.org/heart-gold-scholarship>
- **Paper Submission:**
 - Deliver your application to a school counselor at Stamford High School, Westhill High School or AITE.
 - Or by mailing all application materials to:

United Way of Coastal and Western Connecticut
c/o Victoria Scofield
1150 Summer Street, 2nd Floor
Stamford, CT 06905

Note: Be sure all materials, including recommendation letters, are received or postmarked by **March 25, 2025**.

2025 Scholarship Scoring Rubric

Category	Points Awarded
REVIEW TEAM	
Volunteerism	___ / 60 <i>(sum of three subcategories below)</i>
<p>Commitment & Dedication <i>Consider: the depth and breadth of the student's volunteer activities, the time and energy dedicated to volunteering, and the recommenders' notes on the student's dedication, attitude, etc.</i></p>	___ / 20
<p>Leadership & Initiative <i>Consider: leadership roles taken on by the student, initiative taken to come up with ideas and start new projects, collaboration with other volunteers, etc.</i></p>	___ / 20
<p>Motivation & Personal Connection <i>Consider: the strength of the student's responses & overall story, how well the student articulates the benefits of volunteering, the student's personal connection to the cause, the student's motivation and passion, etc.</i></p>	___ / 20
Letter(s) of Recommendation	___ / 5
Academics	___ / 5
Extracurricular & Work Experience	___ / 5
UNITED WAY TEAM	
Financial Need	___ / 25
Application Total	___ / 100

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2025 Scholarship Application



STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____ **Birth Date:** _____
First and Last

Student's Phone #: _____ **Student's Email:** _____

Student's Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____
Street Address

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s): _____

How many people are in your household?

(Include all adults & children that live with the student)

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Number of Adults (Ages 19-61)</i>	<i>Number of Children (Ages 0-2)</i>	<i>Number of Children (Ages 3-5)</i>	<i>Number of Children (Ages 6-18)</i>	<i>Number of Older Adults (Ages 62+)</i>	

Annual Household Income Range (Circle One):

Under \$29,999	\$30,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999
\$100,000 - \$124,999	\$125,000 - \$149,999	\$150,000 - \$199,999	Over \$200,000

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of High School the Student Attends: _____

High School Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____
Street Address

High School Graduation Date: _____ **High School Phone #:** _____

Guidance Counselor's Name: _____ **Principal's Name:** _____

Recommendation Contact* Name: _____ **Recommendation Contact Phone #:** _____

Recommendation Contact Email Address: _____

**Your recommendation contact will only be contacted if we do not receive the letter for your application*

