

2025 VANTAGE WEST SCHOLARSHIP

OFFICIAL RULES

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PURPOSE

Vantage West Credit Union (“Vantage West”) is a full-service financial institution, offering a wide array of accounts and services. We are committed to our Members and the communities we serve. We believe that education is a key factor in building personal financial stability. To that end, we are proud to offer a scholarship to assist in furthering the recipients’ educational and financial success.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Five (5) scholarships of \$2,500 each are available. Scholarship recipients will receive one (1) non-renewable \$2,500 award to be used toward tuition and other educational costs (such as books, fees, university or on-campus housing, etc.) for the 2025 fall semester. Vantage West will distribute the award in the form of a check payable directly to the institution of higher education which the student will be attending. Should the recipient’s enrollment status change, the award will be invalidated and Vantage West will have sole discretion as to whether or not another recipient will be chosen. No recipient may receive more than one (1) 2025 Vantage West Scholarship award.

CALL TO POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

All eligible students are encouraged to apply! Though academic merit is a key consideration, our selection process also weighs factors, including but not limited to: financial need, quality and content of the required essays, overall character, and additional information you may provide about yourself and your accomplishments. All applications are reviewed by a diverse panel of judges who will select the five scholarship recipients.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Vantage West Scholarship is open to applicants who, at the time of entry, have: (a) applied to and anticipate acceptance; or (b) been accepted into, and are either (i) currently enrolled in; or (ii) plan to attend, a post-secondary educational institution located within the state of Arizona for the fall 2025 semester.

This includes applicants who are EITHER:

- ▼ Graduating high school in spring 2025
- ▼ A high school graduate prior to spring 2025
- ▼ A current post-secondary educational institution¹ student; or
- ▼ A post-secondary educational institution graduate

AND who:

- ▼ Are either a Vantage West Member in good standing, or who have a parent or legal guardian who is a Vantage West Member in good standing

Vantage West employees, volunteers, Board of Directors, Supervisory Committee, and previous Vantage West Scholarship recipients are NOT eligible. Void where prohibited.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

Academic merit is a key consideration, but our selection process also weighs important factors including, but not limited to:

- Quality and content of the required essays
- Overall character and drive to succeed, as demonstrated by volunteerism/philanthropic activities, employment status, GPA, and/or other accomplishments and personal achievements
- Extracurricular activities such as sports, clubs, or other community involvement
- Evidence of financial need, with any details addressed in your essay

If you choose to apply, this is an overview of what we will ask you to share and provide:

¹ A “post-secondary educational institution” includes public or private universities, colleges, junior colleges, community colleges, vocational/trade/technical schools, and post-graduate studies.

1. Applicant's general information, and if applicant is under 18, a parent or legal guardian's information and signature
2. Proof of Applicant or a parent/legal guardian's status as a Vantage West Member, prior to submitting application
3. Future Education Plans: Your enrollment plans and acceptance status for the fall of 2025
4. Philanthropic Activities/Volunteerism: List up to 3 of your most impactful philanthropic activities or accomplishments
5. Awards/Certifications/Honors: List up to 3 of your most meaningful achievements
6. Sports/Extracurricular Activities/Clubs: List up to 3 activities of which you are most proud, including any leadership positions held
7. Work History: List up to 3 paid positions and/or internships you have held
8. Essays: Two (2) total essays are required, and *each* essay should be 300 words.
 - Essay 1: In 300 words, describe your vision of financial success, your future goals, and what this scholarship would help you to accomplish
 - Essay 2: In 300 words, research and write about *two* (2) of the "8 Cooperative Principles" or credit union pioneers (details in prompt within the online application)

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

The deadline to submit your application is 5pm, Tucson, Arizona time, on Friday, May 23, 2025.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Email ScholarshipCommittee@VantageWest.org

DUE DATE AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Due Date: Completed online applications must be **submitted** on or before **5pm (Tucson, AZ time) on Friday, May 23, 2025.**

Submitting an Application: Visit VantageWest.org/Scholarship. There, you will be able to complete and securely submit your application electronically. Printed/hand-written and/or late applications will not be accepted. All applications become the property of Vantage West and will not be returned. Vantage West assumes no responsibility for lost, late, misdirected, or unintelligible entries. By applying for this scholarship, you fully and unconditionally accept and agree to these Official Rules and the selection decisions of Vantage West, which are final and binding.

Applicant Notification: All applicants will be notified of their status by July 31, 2025. If you are selected as a finalist, you will be notified by email between July 07 and July 15, 2025. Please ensure your email address is correctly spelled, as all communications about your scholarship status will be sent via email.

Supporting Documentation: If you are selected as a finalist, you will be required to submit the following documentation in order to be considered for the scholarship.

Finalists will receive an email from ScholarshipCommittee@VantageWest.org informing them of their status by July 15, 2025, and requesting the following documentation:

1. Proof of enrollment in a post-secondary education institution for the fall 2025 semester
2. Most recent transcript
3. Affidavit of Eligibility, Publicity Release, and Liability Waiver
4. Optional: A photo/headshot to share on social media, but is not required to receive the scholarship

The scholarship coordinator will email all finalists with the list of required documentation. Failure to submit supporting documentation by the deadline that will be provided will result in forfeiture of the scholarship award.

ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

Parental Agreement and Acknowledgment: If the applicant is under the age of 18 as of the date the application is submitted, a parent or legal guardian's signature is required on the digital application.

Affidavit of Eligibility, Publicity Release, and Liability Waiver: By submitting an application for this scholarship award, applicants (and their parents/legal guardians where the applicant is under the age of 18) acknowledge that award recipients (and their parents/legal guardians where the applicant is under the age of 18) will be required to sign the Affidavit of Eligibility, Publicity Release, and Liability Waiver Form (draft below for preview; we will email a copy for the finalist to sign—per “Supporting Documentation” above), prior to distribution of scholarship award funds. Refusal to sign said form will result in forfeiture of the scholarship award.

Please note, this form is only necessary for scholarship finalists to sign. You do not need to sign this form in order to submit your scholarship application. If you are selected

as a scholarship recipient finalist, you will receive an email with the Affidavit and request for additional required documentation. See “Supporting Documentation” for details about documentation that the scholarship finalists must submit.

VANTAGE WEST CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions, please contact ScholarshipCommittee@VantageWest.org.

To learn more about Vantage West, call 520.298.7882 or 800.888.7882, visit VantageWest.org, or stop by any of our [locations](#)

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AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY, PUBLICITY RELEASE, AND LIABILITY WAIVER

- This is an unofficial copy for review only -
Scholarship award recipients (and a parent or legal guardian where recipient is under the age of 18) will be asked to sign an official version of this document prior to disbursement of scholarship funds. Refusal to sign will result in forfeiture of scholarship award.

This Affidavit of Eligibility, Publicity Release, and Liability Waiver (the “**Affidavit of Eligibility and Release**” or “**Agreement**”) is agreed to by the person (“**Recipient**”) who is awarded a prize consisting of a \$2,500.00 Educational Scholarship Award (the “**Award**”) in the Vantage West Credit Union Scholarship Program (the “**Scholarship**”) sponsored by Vantage West Credit Union (“**Vantage West**”).

If Recipient is a minor (as defined by the laws of the state of the Recipient’s residence), Recipient’s parent or legal guardian agrees to the terms set forth herein on behalf of the Recipient. Recipient is referred to below as “I” or “me”. In consideration for entry into the Scholarship, and receipt of the Award, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I (and if I am a minor, my parent or legal guardian) hereby agree as follows:

1. Eligibility. I represent that I satisfy all eligibility requirements (e.g., as to my age, lack of affiliation with Vantage West as an employee, volunteer, or previous Scholarship recipient) as set forth herein, and have otherwise complied with, the 2025 Vantage West Scholarship Official Rules (the “**Official Rules**”), which I acknowledge having read and understood. The Scholarship is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Void where prohibited.

2. Permission to Use Likeness; Publicity Release. I give permission irrevocably and in perpetuity to Vantage West to use my name, likeness, voice, photograph, biographical and Award information, and statements for publicity, marketing, advertising, trade, and promotional purposes in any and all media now known or hereafter discovered, worldwide

and on the Internet and World Wide Web, including the right to edit, modify, adapt, or manipulate any material I submitted and/or entered into the Scholarship in any manner in connection therewith, without additional compensation, notice, or limitation of any kind. If the scholarship recipient is under 18, the parent or legal guardian agrees to the terms above on behalf of the recipient.

3. Tax Consequences. Taxes associated with Award (if any) will be the sole responsibility of the Recipient.

4. No Warranties Regarding Scholarship. Vantage West makes no (and disclaims all) warranties whether express or implied regarding the Award and Scholarship. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ANY ACCEPTANCE, PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOLARSHIP, AND/OR RECEIPT OR USE OF ANY AWARD IS SOLELY AT MY OWN RISK.

5. RELEASE. I, ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY ASSIGNS, HEIRS, DEVISEES, AND ESTATE (COLLECTIVELY, "SUCCESSORS"), HEREBY UNCONDITIONALLY AND FOREVER RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS VANTAGE WEST AND ITS DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, REPRESENTATIVES, AGENTS, AND INSURERS (COLLECTIVELY, "**RELEASED PARTIES**"), FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, JUDGMENTS, COSTS, DAMAGES, LOSSES, EXPENSES, AND LIABILITIES DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RELATING TO ANY CLAIM I MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER HAVE WITH RESPECT TO ANY DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE, PECUNIARY LOSS OR OTHER LOSS, DAMAGE, COST, OR EXPENSE (COLLECTIVELY, "**HARM**") THAT MAY BE SUFFERED BY ME OR ANY THIRD PARTY AS A RESULT OF ANY USE BY VANTAGE WEST OF MY NAME, LIKENESS, AND BIOGRAPHICAL OR OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA, OR IN CONNECTION WITH MY ACCEPTANCE, PARTICIPATION IN, USE OF, AND/OR INABILITY TO USE ANY AWARD AWARDED TO ME, EVEN IF SUCH HARM IS CAUSED SOLELY BY THE RECKLESSNESS, NEGLIGENCE, OR FAULT OF ONE OR MORE RELEASED PARTIES (COLLECTIVELY, THE "**RELEASED CLAIMS**").

I HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY VANTAGE WEST AND ALL OTHER RELEASED PARTIES FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL HARM INCURRED BY VWCU AND ANY OTHER RELEASED PARTY ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY RELEASED CLAIMS OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS (INCLUDING BASED ON VIOLATIONS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OR

PUBLICITY OR PRIVACY RIGHTS) BASED ON THE MATERIALS I SUBMITTED TO VANTAGE WEST OR BASED ON VANTAGE WEST'S USE OF SUCH MATERIALS. I SPECIFICALLY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT THIS RELEASE WILL PREVENT ME AND MY SUCCESSORS FROM BRINGING A LAWSUIT, CLAIM, OR OTHER ACTION AGAINST VANTAGE WEST OR ANY OTHER RELEASED PARTY AND FROM RECOVERING ANY MONEY DAMAGES OR OTHER LEGAL RELIEF FROM VANTAGE WEST OR ANY OTHER RELEASED PARTY IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OF THE CLAIMS RELEASED ABOVE.

6. Reformation. If any provision of this Agreement is found to be unreasonable or unenforceable in any respect by a court, it is my intention and understanding that this Agreement shall nonetheless be enforced to the maximum extent to which it is found by the court to be legally enforceable.

7. Dispute Resolution. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ITS CHOICE OF LAW RULES. ANY DISPUTE REGARDING THIS AGREEMENT, THE SCHOLARSHIP, AND/OR THE AWARD IS EXCLUSIVELY SUBJECT TO BINDING ARBITRATION (WITH ONE ARBITRATOR SITTING) IN TUCSON, ARIZONA, PURSUANT TO THE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. I HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVE ANY AND ALL RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THE SCHOLARSHIP, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. I FURTHER WAIVE ANY OBJECTION TO VENUE IN TUCSON, ARIZONA, WHETHER SUCH OBJECTION IS BASED ON LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION, IMPROPER VENUE, FORUM NON CONVENIENS, OR THE LIKE. TUCSON, ARIZONA SHALL BE THE EXCLUSIVE VENUE AND JURISDICTION TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTES RELATING TO THE SCHOLARSHIP AND I IRREVOCABLY SUBMIT TO JURISDICTION IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

8. Entire Agreement. This Agreement, together with the Official Rules, constitutes the entire agreement between me and Vantage West with respect to the matters described

- Unofficial Copy -

Signature Lines to be included on official version and provided to scholarship award recipients (and parent/guardian, if applicable) for signature prior to disbursement of scholarship award funds.

herein, and supersedes any and all other agreements and communications, oral or written, between myself and Vantage West, or any other Released Party. This Agreement may not be amended or supplemented except by a (paper) writing signed by Vantage West.