



North Central Zone
Covering Jefferson and Lewis Counties

***“RETIRED EDUCATORS
HELPING
FUTURE EDUCATORS”***
In Partnership with The



Northern New York
Community Foundation

Chairman

Mr. John J. Gaffney
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SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR 2026

WHAT: Three \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded by the **North Central Zone of the Retired Educators of New York (RENY) and the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF)** for students residing in Jefferson and/or Lewis Counties – These are a onetime award to help students get started with their college education

WHO: Any high school senior pursuing a career in the teaching profession is eligible

REQUIREMENTS: You must be a 2025-2026 high school senior
You must be accepted into a college program starting in the Fall of 2026
You must complete and submit an application form for the scholarship

WHEN: Completed application form, your essay, a letter of recommendation, your high school transcript, and a portrait picture of applicant must be submitted and received by **MARCH 14, 2026** to:

John Gaffney
119 Colorado Avenue
Watertown, NY 13601-3003
Phone Number: (315)782-5834

Award winners will be announced by the first week in May and recipients will be invited to attend a luncheon meeting in June to receive their awards.

Application forms are available by contacting John Gaffney at the above address: or going online to www.nnycf.org



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APPLICATION MATERIALS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ATTACHED ITEMS:

1. Instruction Sheet
2. Page 1 of the application form (Parts I-II)
3. Page 2 of the application form (Parts III-VII)
4. Page 3 of the application form to be given to the person doing your letter of recommendation
5. Page 4 of the application Checklist to be completed when turning in your application for judging

Please, include a **portrait picture of yourself** that will be used for public relation purposes

Applications must be turned into John Gaffney by March 14, 2026
119 Colorado Avenue
Watertown, NY 13601-3003

**RETIRED EDUCATORS OF NEW YORK (RENY)
NORTH CENTRAL ZONE
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
INSTRUCTION SHEET**

Please, follow the instructions given for completing each part of the application form as listed below. Following these instructions is taken into consideration in the rating of the scholarship application.

Word Process or Neatly Print in Blue or Black Ink all parts of the application

If more space is needed on any part, put that information on a separate sheet of paper – Make sure your ***name is on every sheet*** submitted and label all extra pages

PART I. APPLICANT INFORMATION – Fill-in all information requested on the application form

PART II. WORK EXPERIENCE – List all work experience you have had in the last two years. Make sure to include any work experience for which you may not have received compensation but did on a regular basis. Examples may be babysitting for a younger family member, farm chores, etc. If you have had no work experience in the past two years, please explain why.

PART III. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – List any School and/or Community Activities you have participated in over the past two years. Make sure to include any activities involving working with other students. If you have been a committee chairperson, officer in an organization, and/or team captain, make sure to note this. If you do not participate in any extracurricular activities, please give reasons.

PART IV. UNUSUAL FAMILY AND/OR PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES – List any unusual family or personal circumstances you feel warrant the attention of the committee that will evaluate your application.

PART V. REVIEW OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT – Make sure you include with your application your high school transcript that is enclosed in a sealed envelope for evaluation.

PART VI. WRITTEN ESSAY – On a separate sheet of paper, please write an essay (***word processed***) of no more than 250 words on what has influenced you to go into a field of education **AND** why the North Central Zone of the Retired Educators of New York (RENY) should invest in your future. **Be sure to put your name and date at the top of the essay. Make sure you reread your essay by checking your grammar and checking for spelling errors.**

PART VII. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION – Select a teacher, administrator, or guidance counselor from your school district to write a letter of recommendation. Have the individual who writes your letter of recommendation place it in an envelope, seal it, sign across the seal and return it to you. Make sure you place this in your folder when you turn in your application.

WHEN ALL PARTS ARE COMPLETED, PLACE INTO A POCKETED FOLDER ALONG WITH THE CHECKLIST, YOUR PORTRAIT PHOTO, SEALED HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT AND SEALED LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION AND APPRAISAL.

2026 Scholarship Application
(For High School Seniors Graduating In June, 2026)
Please, Word Process or Neatly Print in Blue or Black Ink All Information Requested

Last Name	First	Middle Initial	Male or Female
Mailing Address		City	Zip Code
Email Address (If You Have One):		Telephone Number :()	

NAME	RELATIONSHIP

EMPLOYER	POSITION	DATES	HOURS PER WEEK

PART III. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY ACTIVITY	DATES	SPECIAL AWARDS/HONORS
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If not involved in activities, state reasons: _____

PART IV. UNUSUAL FAMILY AND/OR PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

PART V. REVIEW OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT: Include in a sealed envelope your high school transcript.

PART VI. WRITTEN ESSAY: Do this on a separate sheet of paper and include it with this application form. See instruction sheet for information on the essay that is to be written.

PART VII. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: Follow directions on the instruction sheet

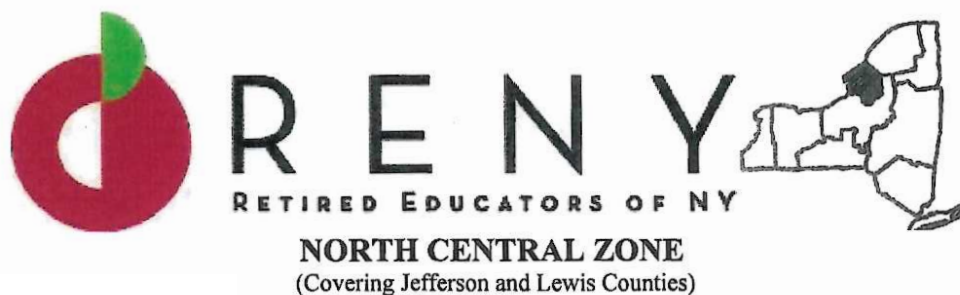
If necessary, use separate sheet(s) of paper to complete any of the above sections and clearly label each section(s) to which they apply.

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted.

Applicant's Signature:

_____ **Date:** _____

RETIRED EDUCATORS OF NEW YORK (RENY)
NORTH CENTRAL ZONE
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
INSTRUCTION SHEET



Northern New York Community Foundation

2026 Scholarship Application Checklist

Scholarships are being made available to any students currently in their senior year of high school, residing in Jefferson or Lewis County and pursuing a degree in education.

When all items are completed for your application, please use and enclose the following checklist in a pocketed folder (**Do not staple or punch holes in the application**)

All pages are to be placed loose in the pockets of the folder in proper order. You are to also include the ***Letter of Recommendation*** along with your ***High School Transcript***. A **portrait photo of yourself** is to be included to be used for public relations purposes.

- ____ 1. All pages are typewritten, word processed from a computer or neatly printed in blue or black ink
- ____ 2. Completed pages 1 and 2 of the application, signed and dated
- ____ 3. Include your essay in word processed format and your application with your name on it
- ____ 4. Proofread your application and essays for spelling and grammar
- ____ 5. Include your Letter of Recommendation in a sealed envelope
- ____ 6. Include your High School Transcript from your guidance counselor in a sealed envelope
- ____ 7. Include a **portrait photo** of yourself
- ____ 8. Submit this checklist with your completed application
- ____ 9. Place all items in a pocketed folder (Do not punch holes or put staples in any of the sheets)
- ____ 10. Your completed folder must be submitted and received by **March 14, 2026** to:

John Gaffney
119 Colorado Avenue,
Watertown, NY 13601-3003