

Spokane County 4-H High School Graduate Scholarship Application (for 2026 Graduates)

The Spokane County 4-H Budget & Fund-Raising Committee is pleased to announce it will be awarding up to **four \$700 scholarships**, in collaboration with the Spokane Horse Committees, to 4-H 2026 HS graduates who are pursuing post-secondary education/training in 2026. Categories include:

- **One Malina Strong Memorial Scholarship (\$700)** to the highest scored application from a 4-H Horse Project graduate.
- **One general scholarship (\$700)** for a youth having been active in the *Horse projects* area.
- **Two general high school graduate scholarships (\$700 each)** in any project area(s) of 4-H.

The Spokane County 4-H Scholarship is open to students who were members during the 2025-26 4-H year and will graduate from high school in 2026. (Please note that a copy of the HS graduate's diploma will be required as evidence of HS graduation **before** a check is issued to the graduate's institution of choice.) The Strong Memorial and Horse Project Scholarships are available **only** to Spokane County 4-H Horse Project Youth. The other two are open to all active WSU Spokane County 4-H members graduating in 2026.

Applications **must be word-processed** (typed) and sent to CAHNRS.Spokane.County.Extension@wsu.edu. **The DEADLINE for applications is Wednesday, April 15, 2026** (post marked by 4/15/26 or emailed by 11:59 pm 4/15/26). We suggest you email or call Bob Kestell at 904-0749 to confirm receipt of your emailed materials. This application form is available at: <https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/4h/members/county-scholarships/>

Mailed applications should be sent to:

4-H Budget and Fund Raising - SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
c/o Bob Kestell - Spokane County 4-H
222 N. Havana, Spokane, WA 99202

Recipients of scholarships will be notified late-May of 2026. Award checks will be sent directly to the institution that you plan to attend, beginning in the fall of 2026.

Please note: No scholarship checks will be sent until the award recipients have provided the following:

1. Accurate mailing address of their institution including the correct department (e.g., the Registrar's Office or Financial Aid Office).
2. Their student number.
3. A recent digital photo that may be posted on the 4-H website.
4. A copy of the essay portion of their scholarship application that may be posted on the 4-H website.
5. A personal thank you note to the providers of the scholarship, which is either the Spokane County 4-H Budget and Fund Raising Committee **or** the Spokane 4-H Horse Projects Committee in the care of the Malina Strong Memorial Scholarship.

Please see the next page for general instructions related to application formatting.

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Please pay careful attention to the instructions provided below by the review committee.

1. Complete cover page with all signatures. *Applications without the cover page and requisite signatures will not be reviewed.*
2. Note, please provide two letters of recommendation including at least one from a 4-H Club Leader that knows you well **and is not a relative.**
3. **Formatting is extremely important to the committee:**
 - All applications shall be typed or word-processed.
 - **Please use** a “sans serif” font such as “Tahoma” **or** “Arial” or “Calibri”
 - **Do not use** a serif font such as “Times New Roman” or a script font such as “Lucida Handwriting.”
 - **Not using a sans serif font** will cause a uniform penalty of 15 points out of 200.
 - If you have formatting questions, please call the 4-H Office at 904-0749, and one of the 4-H staff will assist you.

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PERSONAL DATA

Check all that apply - I wish to be considered for the:

- 2026 General Scholarships (\$700 each) including the general Horse project category
- 2026 Strong Memorial Scholarship *available only to Spokane Horse Project Youth* (\$700)

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____
City _____ Zip _____

Current Grade level (or equivalent if in a running start program) _____

Parents/Guardian Name _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

POST SECONDARY PLAN

Name of institution you plan to attend or institutions to which you have applied (please indicate if your application is pending or accepted) for entry in the fall of 2026:

STATEMENT BY 4-H APPLICANT

I have prepared this Spokane County 4-H Application and believe it to be accurate and true. (If sending electronically, name may be typed in.)

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

ENDORSEMENT OF APPLICATION

I have reviewed this Spokane County 4-H Application and believe it to be accurate and true. (If sending electronically, names may be typed in. If the names are typed in, applicants are on the "honor system" regarding the approval by parent and club leader.)

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature of Club Leader _____ Date _____

All signatures/names must be present in order for application to be considered.

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4-H Essay

(NOTE: These instructions are formatted—regarding font choice and general structure—in the same way the committee requests that you format your application)

Write an essay describing how your involvement in 4-H has influenced your life. It may be up to 500 words in length and must be typed. A few hints to help you write your essay:

1. Write **succinctly and clearly**.
 2. Be certain each paragraph has a **strong topic sentence**.
 3. **“Personalize”** your application, i.e., do more than report your accomplishments, share what 4-H means to you and how it has shaped you as a person, including your future hopes and goals, and post-secondary programs applied to or the one in which you are already enrolled.
 4. Remember that a **good closing paragraph** is as important as your opening paragraph.
 5. Don’t forget to **proof read** your completed application. Up to 5 points (out of 50 for the essay) may be deducted for inadequate proof-reading, which includes grammar and spelling).
 6. **Proof read** your entire application. A well-presented application improves the overall positive impression of you as an applicant!
 7. If you type this in a separate document, please format using **Tahoma 10, spacing at “6 point” above and below paragraph returns, and a line spacing of “1.5.”**
8. Remember to include your transcript(s) and the two letters of support (non-relatives, including one from a 4-H club leader). If you mail your application, include them with your application. If you wish to **e-mail your application**, send materials to CAHNRS.Spokane.County.Extension@wsu.edu and convert your transcript and letters of support to PDFs and attach them as well. Good Luck! Email or call Bob at 509-904-0749 to confirm receipt of your application materials.

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~ ~ ~ Spokane County 4-H -- It's *all about* positive youth development ~ ~ ~

Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who participate in 4-H events and programs. Contact Tammy Wilson at the Spokane 4-H Extension Office at 222 N. Havana, Spokane, (509-904-0753; tammy.wilson@wsu.edu) at least two weeks prior to the event.

(Application last revised 3/10/2026)