

# 2026

## FEDERAL WATER QUALITY ASSOCIATION

### National Capital Environmental Scholarship Program

#### What are the Federal Water Quality Association scholarships?

Four scholarships in the amount of \*\$2000 each are planned to be awarded in 2026 to encourage young people to prepare for careers in environmental protection by supporting studies leading to a bachelor's degree in applicable sciences or engineering. \*(per sponsor contributions)

**Who is eligible to apply?** Graduating seniors from high schools in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area and surrounding counties, planning to pursue environmental careers. (You must be accepted prior to receiving the award, into a 4-year bachelor's program in an acceptable field of study by an institution of higher learning). Acceptable areas of study: environmental sciences, environmental engineering, civil engineering, biology, chemistry, chemical engineering, or natural resource planning – other areas of the environment will also be considered.

**How are applications judged?** By a committee of water professionals, on academic achievement and above all on the applicant's level of commitment to environmental protection (essay must reflect environmentally-related studies and/or service, leadership, and overall presentation including emphasis on science courses, relevance of program of study, and sincerity of commitment).

#### What MUST you send besides the application?

- 1) School transcript
- 2) SAT (or ACT) scores
- 3) Reference letter(s), preferably from a science teacher or environmentalist
- 4) List of extra-curricular activities or brief description
- 5) Copy of letter of acceptance from a 4-year college, and
- 6) ESSAY (one page preferred) on ONE of the following topics:
  - a. How your own actions have promoted environmental protection/awareness.
  - b. Why you would like to pursue a career in environmental protection/pollution control; what factors led to your decision; and what you hope to accomplish through a career in this field.
  - c. How your choice of extracurricular activities, elective classes, and non-science classes will contribute to your career goals.

**When is the application deadline?** Your application **MUST** be received by **Monday, April 13, 2026** (no exceptions). Winners will be notified in early May.