

### **The History**

The Syracuse Fire Department Credit Union is a non-profit organization that began over 70 years ago, to help Syracuse Firefighters in need of financial assistance. The funds came from the members themselves, and the Credit Union has grown greatly and now offers many financial services to its members.

### **The Award**

The Credit Union is proud to facilitate several scholarship programs. A scholarship program outline is attached defining the different scholarships available as well as the award amount and the specific criteria that needs to be met to be eligible. The completed applications will also be forwarded to the Credit Union Association of New York and be eligible for their scholarship awards in the amount of either \$1,000 or \$500. Awards will be deposited directly to the students credit union account upon receipt of college acceptance letter.

### **Eligibility**

The applicant must be a member in good standing and meet all of the criteria outlined below.

### **Application Process**

To apply, eligible members must complete this scholarship application form. Applicants should type or print clearly and use only the space provided on this form to answer the questions. Other than specified below, no attachments, resumes, pictures or other material of any kind should be used to answer the questions.

1. The signed application must be submitted together with:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ An official high school transcript documenting student's GPA for grades 9-11
  - \_\_\_\_\_ An SAT/PSAT/ACT transcript (obtained through the high school guidance office)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ A typed essay response
  - \_\_\_\_\_ A picture of the applicant (to be used in the event of being awarded a scholarship. Pictures can be emailed directly to [tonia@syrfirecu.com](mailto:tonia@syrfirecu.com))
2. The applicant and his/her parents/guardian must sign the Certification and Release Authorization on the back page of this form.
3. The application, transcripts, and essay must be returned to the credit union either in person or emailed to [tonia@syrfirecu.com](mailto:tonia@syrfirecu.com) by January 7, 2021. If any portion is incomplete or not included, the application will not be considered.

### **Selection Process**

Judging will be based on both subjective criteria and weighted, objective criteria. These include academic achievements, extracurricular and community activities, the essay, etc. Applications are sent to judges who are not directly affiliated with the credit union. All personal information such as names and addresses are blocked to keep the identity of the applicant private from judges and the ensure judging is unbiased.

### **Application Deadline**

Applications must be returned to the credit union no later than Thursday, January 7, 2021.



## 2021 Scholarship Program Outline

As a member in good standing of the Syracuse Fire Dept. Credit Union, graduating high school seniors qualify for several scholarships.

### Syracuse Fire Department Credit Union Scholarship

*Sponsored by: Syracuse Fire Department Credit Union*

*Award: \$1,500      Awards Available: 5*

*Will be awarded to a credit union member in good standing attending college in 2021.*

### Syracuse Fire Fighters Association Local 280 Scholarship

*Sponsored by: Syracuse Fire Fighters Association Local 280*

*Award: \$1,500      Awards Available: 1*

*Will be awarded to a child or grandchild of a current or retired Syracuse Firefighter.*

### Lee Alexander Scholarship

*Sponsored by: The Family of Lee Alexander*

*Award: \$1,500      Awards Available: 1*

*Will be awarded to a credit union member graduating from the Syracuse City School District.*

### Deputy Chief Timothy T. Laun Scholarship

*Sponsored by: The Family of Timothy T. Laun*

*Award: \$1,500      Awards Available: 1*

*Will be awarded to a child/grandchild/niece/nephew of a current, retired or deceased Syracuse Police Officer pursuing a criminal justice/forensic science or related degree.*

## Getting to know the applicant:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated College Studies: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you related to a Syracuse Firefighter?      Y      N

If yes, who are you related to? \_\_\_\_\_ How are you related? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you related to a Syracuse Police Officer?      Y      N

If yes, who are you related to? \_\_\_\_\_ How are you related? \_\_\_\_\_

■ **Selection Process**

Judging will be based on both subjective criteria and weighted, objective criteria. These include academic achievements, extracurricular and community activities, essay, etc.

■ **Application Deadline**

Applications must be submitted to the New York Credit Union Association no later than **January 7, 2021**.

■ **Scholarship Applicant Information**

This application will not be considered unless all information is **completed in full, on this form only**, and all requested documentation is provided.

**Please use only the space provided on this form to answer the questions. Do not use any attachments, resumes, pictures or other material of any kind to answer the questions. Please do not include letters of recommendation.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name of College You Plan to Attend \_\_\_\_\_

**High School Honors and Awards**

Please list honors and awards and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

*Examples: honor roll, National Honor Society, Who's Who, Principal's awards, science fair awards, college book awards, student/athlete awards, Empire State Games team, Eagle Scout classification, Girl Scouts Gold award.*

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    6. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    7. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    8. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    9. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    10. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12

**High School Activities**

Please list high school activities and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

*Examples: sports teams, clubs, band, drama, choral, orchestra, yearbook, school newspaper, MathCounts, LifeSmarts, tutoring.*

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    6. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    7. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12
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- 5. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12    10. \_\_\_\_\_  9  10  11  12

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### Community Activities and Volunteer Work

Please list community activities and volunteer work and grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: *scouting, community service projects, community volunteerism, religious youth groups, youth counseling.*

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| 4. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 | 9. _____  | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 |
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### Leadership Positions Held (elected or appointed)

Please list leadership positions held and the grade(s) of participation. Use this space only.

Examples: *class officer, club officer, sports team leader, scouting leader, student government officer, band/orchestra 1st chair.*

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### ■ Essay

Please respond to the following questions in a comprehensive essay. Your response should be between 300–500 words. Please be sure to cite all sources. **If any portion of the essay is plagiarized, the entire application will be disqualified.** Also, please ensure that you have answered each of the components of the essay. Personal narratives or other unrelated essays will not be eligible for credit.

**Question:** Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives that exist to serve members, not generate profit. “People helping people” is the philosophical foundation of these institutions. What do you see as the value of this foundation? Please explain.

In addition:

- What makes your credit union different than a for-profit financial institution?;
- How does your **credit union** demonstrate credit union’s “people helping people” philosophy?; and
- If you ran your credit union, what is one new initiative/program you would implement?

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**■ Certification and Release Authorization**

The following information must be completed for the applicant to be considered for a scholarship award.

- *I certify this information is true, complete and accurate.*
- *I authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.*
- *I agree to use any scholarship funds awarded at an accredited educational institution by January 31, 2022.*
- *I authorize the New York Credit Union Association and \_\_\_\_\_  
to publish my child's name and/or photo for the use of \_\_\_\_\_  
promotional materials, news releases and/or social media.* Credit Union Name

**Member Signature** (Student) \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



strength in members.