



The Baird and Mary Jane Collins Scholarship fund is available through the Perry County Community Foundation, a regional foundation of the Foundation for Enhancing Communities, to assist and encourage students living within the West Perry School District to pursue a college degree. Both Baird and Mary Jane have teaching degrees and Baird taught in the West Perry School District until his retirement. They are passionate about the value of an education and have encouraged and mentored many to continue their schooling. They are also very involved and committed to their faith - leading, directing, and participating in many church-related activities. As such, this scholarship was established to honor Baird and Mary Jane Collins and to promote and support those things which they have encouraged their entire lives – education and faith.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Legal resident within the West Perry School District
2. Preference to be given to an individual planning to pursue a career in Christian Ministry, Music, or Elementary Education or who is a member of Tressler Memorial Free Lutheran Church
3. Attendance at a school of higher education as a full-time student
4. Academic achievement, with a minimum GPA of 2.5 or higher
5. High moral character (attend and be involved in church activities)
6. Financial Need

HOW TO APPLY

The application process is online. You can access and submit the application beginning January 1.

[Click here](#) to access the online application.

If you are signing back in to complete your application, please [click here](#).

Before accessing the application, be prepared to attach the following items:

***** YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION UNTIL THESE ITEMS ARE ATTACHED*****

1. Other Scholarship Information: [Click here](#) to download the fill-in Word document that you should complete, save, and attach to your application.
2. Student Resume: [Click here](#) to download the fill-in Word document that you should complete, save, and attach to your application.
3. FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR): Please attach the report in its entirety. This report must include the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). Please be aware that the SAR is **not** the same as the Summary Report. In addition to the SAR, you may also provide a letter with information you believe will be useful in determining your financial need (e.g., family and student income). Are there extenuating circumstances of which we should be aware? For example, illness in the family, loss of employment, or other relevant information?
4. Personal Essay: Describe your future goals and ambitions, as well as your current activities and interests. 300 words maximum, typewritten, 12 pt. font, double spaced.

The following requirements must be emailed to scholarshipapplications@tfec.org separately. These items will not appear as attachments to your online application or prevent you from submitting:

The following requirements must be emailed by your school's counseling office:

1. *Official Transcript.* Home schooled students should submit a detailed grade report.
2. *School Counselor Form.* [Click here](#) to download the form

The following requirements must be emailed by your personal references:

1. *Two (2) Personal Reference Letters. One letter must be from a high school teacher or mentor; the other should be from religious leader identifying how you demonstrate your faith. Letters from family members will not be accepted. **All reference letters must remain confidential.***

RENEWABILITY

This scholarship will be renewed for the normal period of years required to complete the recipient's chosen educational program (up to a maximum of 4 years) provided that the recipient makes adequate progress toward completing his or her education, remains in good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 2.5, and has continued financial need. Students must submit their transcript and tuition bill each semester to The Foundation in order for their scholarship to be renewed. In addition, each scholarship recipient will be expected to provide a report on his or her activities and progress to The Foundation on an annual basis, approximately one month after the end of the spring term.

Your Official Transcript must be mailed or sent as a certified PDF emailed directly from your university. It is your responsibility to ensure that your transcript is received by the deadline. The transcript **must be received** by the deadline, **not postmarked**.

Mail Official Transcript to:

The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
Baird and Mary Jane Collins Scholarship Fund
Attn: Faith Elmes, Scholarship Coordinator
200 N. 3rd Street, 8th Floor
PO Box 678
Harrisburg, PA 17108-0678

OR

Email Official Transcript to:

scholarshipapplications@tfec.org
Faith Elmes, Scholarship Coordinator

MATCHING AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

AES/PHEAA's PATH Program: Scholarship recipients are eligible to have their awards matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by AES/PHEAA's *PATH ("Partnerships for Access to Higher Education") Program*. PHEAA may grant matching funds to scholarship recipients who are enrolled in an approved Pennsylvania college or career school as an undergraduate student on at least a half-time basis, who are a Pennsylvania state grant recipient and who demonstrate financial need. Students must also be a resident of Pennsylvania, not in default on any educational loans, maintain academic progress, and not be considered an incarcerated student. The match provides last-dollar support for tuition and fees. *Scholarship funds used for reimbursement of textbook purchases are not eligible for a PATH Program match.* The scholarship recipient's information is submitted to PHEAA by TFEC staff. No additional work will be asked of the scholarship recipient. For more information regarding AES/PHEAA, please refer to their website at www.pheaa.org.