Rotary Club of Santa Ynez Valley

# 2026 Scholarship Application
# Incoming College Freshman

The Rotary Club of Santa Ynez Valley is presently welcoming applications for our annual scholarship awards. We offer three monetary scholarships for graduating high school seniors.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### Santa Ynez Valley Rotary Club Community Service Scholarship

The members of the Santa Ynez Valley Rotary Club perform community service, in both a local and international capacity, and is an important part of a Rotarian's service. This scholarship recognizes students that have performed "unpaid" community service (hence, paid work and athletic endeavors do not constitute community service).

### Santa Ynez Valley Rotary Club Academic Improvement Scholarship

Many scholarships reward consistent academic excellence. This scholarship rewards academic improvement. The ideal candidate for this scholarship will show academic improvement through an increase in grade point average and/or an increase in difficulty of classes over the past three years. The committee will be looking for a minimum increase in GPA of at least 1 point; for example, going from a 2.0 to a 3.0.

### Santa Ynez Valley Rotary Club Vocational Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to students pursuing a two-year career-focused education at a two-year college or technical school.

Scholarship applying for (please select one):

☐ Community Service ☐ Academic Improvement ☐ Vocational

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for any of these scholarships, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be currently attending or planning to attend college in the fall of the current year.
2. Meet the scholarship description.

3. Applicants must be one of the following:
    a. Currently, is a Santa Ynez Valley resident and/or has attended a high school in the Santa Ynez Valley for at least two years.
    b. At least one of the applicant's parents live in the Santa Ynez Valley (please provide a utility bill).

## APPLICATIONS

A complete application includes:

1. Scholarship application form.
2. An essay describing your qualifications for this particular scholarship (min. 200 words).
3. A copy of your transcript.
4. If you are applying for the Community Service Scholarship, please provide a print out of your community service hours. Community service does not include paid work nor competing on a sports team.
5. If you are applying for the Community Service Scholarship, also include a letter of reference from a non-related adult. The letter should include a description of the community service performed and the duration.

## DEADLINES

6 March 2026: All applications must be postmarked by this date.

6 April 2026: All final scholarship candidates interviews by the scholarship committee will be completed.

17 April 2026: Final decisions for scholarship awardees will be made.

Prior to the Fall: Scholarship awardees must attend a Santa Ynez Valley Rotary Club meeting prior to the fall semester, show proof of enrollment and then will receive their scholarship money. Checks will be written directly to the educational institution.

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____ Email:_____

☐ Currently a Santa Ynez Valley resident.

☐ Attended a high school in the Santa Ynez Valley for at least 2 years.

Name of High School:_____

Years Attended:_____

☐ At least one parent/guardian currently resides in the Santa Ynez Valley (utility bill attached).

## PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name(s) of Guardians:_____

Father's Occupation:_____ Mother's Occupation:_____

Number of Dependents in Household:_____

## POST SECONDARY PLANS

I am planning _____ years of advanced study.

☐ I am attending, have been accepted and will attend OR

☐ I have applied to and am waiting to hear from the following schools:

College/University:_____

Other Certificate Programs:_____

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

*Examples are sports, student government, clubs, church, community service, employment, interests and hobbies. Please include college activities if applicable.*

| High School Activities | Gr 9-12 | Honors/Awards/Leadership | Gr 9-12 |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| Community Service/ExtraCurricular | Gr 9-12 | Hrs/Week |
|---|---|---|
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| Work Experience | Gr 9-12 | Hrs/Week |
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***By signing below, I certify that the above information is correct.***

Signature:_____ Date:_____

**Applications must be postmarked or received via email by March 6th, 2026.**

*Please do not forget your supporting paperwork.*

**Rotary Club of Santa Ynez Valley**

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