

HELEN MARTIN & TRADE WINDS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACHIEVEMENT 2026 STUDENT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless (LICH) and United Way Long Island are partnering to award at least two \$2,000.00 scholarships to students who have lived experience of homelessness and are entering, or are currently enrolled in, college or trade school. Applicants must be current residents of Nassau or Suffolk Counties (unless already enrolled in college or trade school elsewhere, with a previous residence in Nassau or Suffolk Counties), and have attended elementary, middle and/or high school in Nassau or Suffolk Counties.

Applicants must enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study or other licensed vocational program no later than the spring session of 2027.

Complete packages must be received by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026, and must include each of the following:

- Student Application
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Essay
- School Transcript; documentation of GED Completion (if applicable)
- Signed release (we will only release the names and photos, as applicable, of awardees)

INCOMPLETE AND LATE PACKAGES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. APPLICATIONS FROM PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

HOW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ARE CHOSEN

- Grade point average 2.0 or higher (“C” average)
- Quality of essay
- Letter(s) of recommendation – minimum of one is required; two or three are preferred
- Review and selection by the Keys Conference Planning Committee

IF YOU ARE SELECTED TO RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP

- You will be notified by July 31, 2026.
- Awardees are encouraged (not required) to attend the keys for the homeless conference, where the scholarship awards will be announced. The 38th Annual Keys for the Homeless conference will be on Thursday, December 10, 2026, at Long Island Marriott in Melville.
- Awardees must sign a release allowing lich to announce their names as scholarship recipients
- You must enroll in an accredited or licensed institution by the Spring term of the 2027 school year and provide documentation of such enrollment no later than February 20, 2027. If not, you will forfeit your scholarship and, if possible, it will be awarded to an alternate recipient.
- Scholarship funds will be credited to your student account after documentation of your enrollment is received. Please note that funds cannot be given directly to the student.

**THE HELEN MARTIN & TRADE WINDS SCHOLARSHIPS
2026 STUDENT APPLICATION**

Complete Application Package (including School Transcript, Essay, Letter(s) of Recommendation and Student Application) must be received by **12:00 p.m. on June 19, 2026.**
Incomplete and late packages will not be considered.

Student Information

Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Current Address _____
Street Apt. #
City State Zip

Home Phone (_____) _____ Work Phone (_____) _____

Mobile Phone (_____) _____ E-Mail _____

Date of Birth Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ SSN _____ / _____ / _____

Parent or Guardian Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Home Phone (_____) _____ Work Phone (_____) _____

Alternate Contact Name _____ email _____

High School Information

Please check the county for your school district: Suffolk County Nassau County

Current Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____ / 4.0 Scale or _____ / _____ Scale

High School Graduation or GED Completion Date: Month _____ Year _____

School Name _____

School Address _____
Street
City State Zip

Contact Person at High School _____ Phone (_____) _____

College/University/Vocational School Information

Enrollment Date: Fall Spring Summer Year _____

School Name _____

School Address _____
Street
City State Zip

Major/Course of Study _____

Interests and Hobbies

Professional Letter(s) of Recommendation

Individuals from whom letters of recommendation will be accepted include, but are not limited to, a teacher, guidance counselor, social worker, case manager, or housing worker. A MINIMUM OF ONE IS REQUIRED; 2 OR 3 ARE PREFERRED.

Essay

Tell us about your experience with homelessness. Please mention what type of homeless situation you were in (ex: family shelter, couch surfing, etc.). Please describe how you were able to cope on a day-to-day basis. Was there any situation or special person that inspired you? **What are your dreams, hopes and plans?** Please also tell us what college, university or other licensed vocational program you will attend or to which you have applied.

This essay must be a minimum of 750 words. Include your name and address in the upper left corner of the first page.

Transcript and/or GED Documentation

Applications must include a copy of high school transcript including the last semester/quarter completed. Individuals who received a GED must also include documentation that they completed their GED.

EMAIL COMPLETE APPLICATIONS TO:

RORTLIEB@ADDRESSSTHEHOMELESS.ORG

AND

GGUARTON@ADDRESSSTHEHOMELESS.ORG

*Applications must be received by 12:00 p.m. on June 19, 2026.
Incomplete and late packages will not be considered.*

CONSENT

I, _____, hereby authorize the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless to release my name as a recipient of the 2026 Helen Martin Scholarship/Trade Winds for Achievement Award, should I be selected as an awardee. The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless may also release photographs taken of me in connection with the 2026 Helen Martin/Trade Winds Scholarship for Achievement Awards. I further understand that portions of my essay may be read during the 2026 Keys for the Homeless Conference, although my name will not be associated with the excerpt being shared.

(Print Name)
2026 Helen Martin/Trade Winds Scholarship Applicant

(Sign Name)
2026 Helen Martin/Trade Winds Scholarship Applicant

Signature of Parent or Guardian
(if Recipient is a minor)

**PLEASE EMAIL RELEASE WITH COMPLETE
APPLICATION TO:**

RORTLIEB@ADDRESSSTHEHOMELESS.ORG

OPTIONAL TO MAIL ORIGINAL APPLICATION TO:

Rosemary Ortlieb
Long Island Coalition for the Homeless
600 Albany Avenue, Suite 2
Amityville, NY 11701