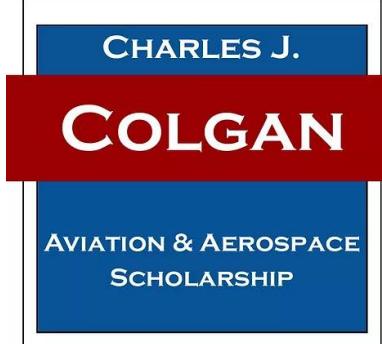




## The VABA Scholarship Application is Closing Soon!

The annual Charles J. Colgan Scholarship, in the amount of \$2,000, is awarded to a well deserving Virginia resident High School, Technical School Senior or College/University Undergraduate who is pursuing an aviation related career at an accredited institution located in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The scholarship will be paid directly to the institution in the name of the awardee.

The application period is now open, and the deadline for 2025 submissions is Friday, May 1, 2025.



To be eligible, applicants must:

- Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in their last full year of study.
- Submit a typed, double-spaced essay (250-500 words) on one of the following topics:
  - Why I Wish to Pursue a Career in Aviation
  - Careers in aviation include, but are not limited to, pilots, aviation maintenance, aviation management, air traffic control, aerospace engineering, and aviation operations
  - Why Aviation is Important to the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Provide two letters of recommendation, with at least one preferably from a professional in the aviation industry.

If mailing, letters must be placed in sealed envelopes with the recommender's signature across the back seal and included in the applicant's submission package.

If emailing, letters must be sent separately by the recommender to [info@thevaba.org](mailto:info@thevaba.org).

- Submit proof of acceptance into an aviation-related post-secondary education program or proof of good standing in an existing program located in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- (Optional) Submit a typed, double-spaced statement (no more than 250 words) if you would like to provide additional information for the scholarship committee's consideration.

### Scholarship Requirements:

To complete your application, follow these steps:

1. Complete [the VABA Scholarship application form](#).
2. Obtain required signatures. Have your guidance counselor or another school official sign all required certifications.
3. Collect official documents. Email or mail an official copy of your current high school transcript and proof of acceptance or good standing in an accredited post-secondary institution.

The Virginia Aviation Business Association (VABA)

[info@thevaba.org](mailto:info@thevaba.org)

2025 Charles J. Colgan Scholarship

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Academic performance: 30%
- Essay quality: 30%
- Letters of recommendation: 20%
- Subjective evaluation: 20%

**How to Apply:**

Applicants may submit their application and materials by email or mail. Please follow one of the two submission methods below:

**Option 1: Email Submission**

All materials must be submitted electronically to:

 [info@thevaba.org](mailto:info@thevaba.org) with the subject line: Colgan Scholarship 2025

- Attach all required documents, including your transcript, essay, and proof of acceptance.
- Your recommenders must send their letters separately from their own email addresses.

**Option 2: Mail Submission**

All application materials must be sent together in one envelope to:

VABA Scholarship (Attn: K. Hellebush)  
c/o Virginia Aviation Business Association  
1011 E. Main Street  
Suite 400  
Richmond, VA 23219

- Include your completed application form, transcript, essay, proof of acceptance, and recommendation letters.
- Recommendation letters must be in sealed envelopes with the recommender's signature across the back seal.

Please email [Katie Hellebush](mailto:Katie.Hellebush@vaba.org) with any questions.