

J. W. Counts Scholarship 2026

Scholarship Checklist

Arlington Independent School District

Please ensure all items are in the order listed below. Submit this checklist with completed application to your school counselor no later than February 20, 2026

First Name	
Last Name	
High School	

	Complete Application
	Unofficial Transcript
	Two (2) Recommendation Letters One from Category A and One from Category B
	One (1) Recommendation Form Completed by School Counselor or Administrator
	Typed Essay

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Application Instructions

Arlington Independent School District

Application Deadline:

A complete application is due to your high school counselor by **Friday, February 20, 2026**.

Award Amount:

The scholarship is a one-time award of \$1,000. Funds will be paid directly to the Institution of Higher Education upon verification of enrollment.

Recommendations:

One recommendation from each category is required.

Category A	Category B	Category C
Teacher	Employer	Counselor or Administrator Recommendation Checklist Attached
Extracurricular Sponsor	Club Sponsor	
Community Person	Family Friend	
Counselor or Administrator	Church Official	

Student Essay:

Length	500 Words or Less, 2 Typed Pages
Format	Standard (8 1/2 x 11) Double Space with 2" Top, Bottom & Side Margins
Topic	What are your future educational goals, professional aspirations, and how winning this scholarship will help you achieve your goals.

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Application

Arlington Independent School District

Complete the information requested below and return to your School Counselor by **Friday, February 20, 2026**. Incomplete applications will not be considered. A typed application is preferred; **black ink must be used**.

Last Name					
First Name		Middle Initial			
DOB		High School			
ID#		Age			
Contact Number					
Address					
City		State		Zip Code	

Middle School Attended			Elementary School Attended		
School Rank		ACT Composite		GPA	
SAT Combined		Numeric AVG			

Father/Guardian Occupation	
Mother/Guardian Occupation	
Number of Brothers and Sisters	
Age of Sibling One	
Age of Sibling Two	
Age of Sibling Three	
Age of Sibling Four	
Age of Sibling Five	
Age of Sibling Six	
How many family members, including yourself, will be in college next year?	

List most notable community activities & school related extra-curricular activities during grades 9-12 and mark "x" for the appropriate grade level(s):

Activities	Grade				Level of Involvement (i.e., officer, member, etc.)
	12	11	10	9	

List special recognition, awards and honors received during grade 9-12 and mark "x" for the appropriate grade level(s):

Honors	Grade				Group or activity sponsoring the recognition.
	12	11	10	9	

List and describe any work experiences during the last 2 years:

Place(s) of Employment	Grade				Job Description
	12	11	10	9	

What college do you plan to attend?	
Have you applied?	
Have you been admitted?	
Do you plan to work while in college?	
What arrangements have you made for the payment of college tuition and related expenses?	

Student Signature		Date	
Parent Signature		Date	

Essay:

Attach a *typed* statement that does not exceed 500 words explaining the statement.
Future educational goals, professional aspirations, and how winning this scholarship will help you achieve your goals.

J. W. Counts Scholarship

Counselor or Administrator Recommendation

Arlington Independent School District

To be completed by a counselor or school administrator as part of the J.W. Counts Scholarship Application.

Student Last Name								
Student First Name								
This student ranks:		Exactly		Approximately		From the top of a class numbering		Students
The rank covers the period from	month/year		to	month/year	Rank is based on:		All Subjects	Academics Only
Present grade point average of this student is					On a		Scale	

In comparison to the college preparatory curriculum offered at your school, this student's course selection is:

	Most Demanding
	Demanding
	Average
	Below Average

Check the most appropriate box concerning this student.	No Basis for Judgement	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent (Top 10%)	Outstanding (Top 2% or 3%)	One of the top few encountered in my career.
Creative Original Thought							
Academic Motivation							
Independence & Initiative							
Intellectual Ability							
Academic Achievement							
Academic Potential							
Extracurricular Involvement							
Leadership							
Emotional Maturity							
Overall							

Comments:

How long have you known this student?		In what capacity?	
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Counselor/Administrator:

Name	
Title	
Contact Number	

Signature _____ Date _____