2027 Scholarship Application

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name:_____ Birthdate:_____ / _____ / _____

Home Address:_____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Mailing Address (if different than home address):_____

Cell Phone: (_____) _____ Home Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

BankWest Deposit Account Number:_____ Date Opened* _____

I am currently a: ☐ High School Senior ☐ Full-time Undergraduate Student

Do either you or your parent(s)/guardian(s) work for BankWest? ☐ Yes ☐ No

G.P.A. _____

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A BANKWEST SCHOLARSHIP, YOU MUST MEET ALL THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- be a BankWest Deposit Account holder for a minimum of six months preceding application deadline*
- be a U.S. citizen
- be a high school senior, or full-time undergraduate student currently attending an accredited post high school educational institution
- have not previously received a BankWest Scholarship
- conduct an in-person interview in Pierre on March 15 or 16, 2027, if chosen as a finalist

NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 24

Distributed as follows:

- 18 - divided on a percentage basis to high school seniors and undergraduate students currently attending an accredited post-high school educational institution
- 6 - high school seniors who are dependents of BankWest employees, or who are employed by BankWest

SCHOLARSHIP VALUE: $2,000 ($1,000 per semester)

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT TO: BankWest Scholarship Committee
PO Box 998
Pierre, SD 57501-0998

APPLICATION POSTMARK DEADLINE: January 22, 2027

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All eligibility requirements must be met. Scholarships may not be used for any purpose other than tuition during the Fall 2027/ Spring 2028 school year. Recipients agree to have their names released to the media. Recipients are not eligible to apply for future BankWest scholarships. If the eligibility requirements are not met, it may result in disqualification of the applicant.

Signature:_____ Date:_____

SEE REVERSE FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

**Account must be in good standing and have been opened on or before July 22, 2026.*

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE EVALUATED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Area I - Essay (Up to 15 points awarded)
In 400 words or less, describe why you should be considered for a BankWest scholarship.

Area II - Community Service (Up to 20 points awarded)
Being involved and helping others within our communities is a priority at BankWest. To illustrate your contributions to your community and service to others, please include a summary of your past and present civic, religious, and volunteer activities. List each activity separately and briefly describe your involvement, including the average number of hours per week/month/year you have devoted to each activity. The summary should be typewritten/computer-generated on an 8-1/2 x 11 sheet(s).

Area III - Activities (Up to 15 points awarded)
Include a summary of your past and present extracurricular, school, employment and special interest activities. List each activity separately and briefly describe your involvement, including the average number of hours per week/month/year you have devoted to each activity. The summary should be typewritten/computer-generated on an 8-1/2 x 11 sheet(s).

Area IV - Character (Up to 10 points awarded)
Attach two personal letters of recommendation. Give specific examples regarding character, dependability, involvement and other distinguishing characteristics of the applicant. Recommendations must be typewritten/computer-generated on an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet.

Area V - Academic (Up to 10 points awarded)
Include an official transcript, including your cumulative GPA, from the last semester or quarter completed. If your cumulative GPA is not on your transcript, please attach it separately.

**Based upon scoring in the above five areas, finalists will be selected to conduct an in-person interview on March 15 or 16, 2027.*

Area VI - Personal Interview (Up to 30 points awarded)
Applicants selected for interviews will be notified by **February 19, 2027.** Finalists will be interviewed by a panel of judges. High School Senior interviews will be Monday, March 15, 2027. BankWest Dependents and/or Employees and Undergraduate interviews will take place Tuesday, March 16, 2027. Interview points will be added to the points previously awarded. Finalists will not be allowed to use notes at the interview.

Finalists will be required to conduct an in-person interview in Pierre on March 15 or 16, 2027.

During the interview, finalists will be judged on:

- ability to express a positive attitude and image
- ability to communicate effectively, express thoughts clearly, and use grammar appropriately
- professional appearance
- answers given to several questions including the following two questions:
  1. What are the most challenging aspects of being a teenager/young adult today? How do you deal with those challenges?
  2. How is a local full-service bank uniquely qualified to make a difference in the community?

If you have any questions regarding this scholarship application, please contact your local scholarship coordinator.

Armour: Meagan Baier, 605-724-2155 or 1-877-724-2155
Colman: Tanner DeKam, 605-494-4453 or 1-800-253-0362
Delmont: Lisa Stoebner, 605-779-2551 or 1-877-779-2551
Geddes: Brenda Hermanek, 605-337-3333 or 1-888-253-0420
Gregory: Mackenzie Stukel, 605-835-9692 or 1-800-566-3439
Kadoka: Belinda Juhnke, 605-837-2281 or 1-800-306-9345
Kennebec: Katie Zirpel, 605-869-2211 or 1-800-308-2322
Madison: Tom Kahler, 605-556-0235 or 1-800-253-0362
Mitchell: Brian Graves, 605-995-4674 or 1-800-671-0053
Onida: Micaela Mennenger, 605-258-2656 or 1-866-270-2681
Pierre: Jody Heemstra, 605-945-3724 or 1-800-253-0362
Rapid City: Pat Watson, 605-399-4119 or 1-877-965-2265
Selby: Autumn Vetter, 605-649-7272 or 1-800-862-1439
Spearfish: Nicole Goetzinger, 605-559-2506 or 1-888-775-5336
Tripp: Lisa Stoebner, 605-779-2551 or 1-877-779-2551
Winner: Linda Nelson, 605-842-3004 or 1-800-894-0323