



## ***Pearlie Mae Ford Community Service Club of Sanford, Inc.***

### **Pearlie Lift-Up Scholarship Service Award For 2026 High School Graduates**

The 2026 “Pearlie Lift Up” Scholarship will be awarded to a deserving student who has struggled personally or academically, who has given back through service to his or her community and who wants a second chance to further his or her education. **Preference will be given to applicants who are African American graduates who reside in Seminole or Volusia County.**

#### **BEFORE YOU APPLY:**

We advise you to read the application in its entirety before you begin completing it in order that you may be fully prepared. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

#### **RETURN THE COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:**

Pearlie Mae Ford Community Service Club of Sanford, Inc.  
Post Office Box 1353  
Sanford, FL 32772-1353

This is a non-renewable scholarship.

*The mission of the Pearlie Mae Ford Community Service Club of Sanford, Inc. is to assist in community programs, support charities, provide scholarships to area high school students attending college or vocational institutions, and provide support and encouragement to our members.*

*A 501(c)(3) organization*

**Pearlie Lift-Up Scholarship Service Award Application**[www.pmfclubsanford.org](http://www.pmfclubsanford.org)

**CRITERIA:**

- 1) The applicant must be a senior in high school with a summer, 2026 graduation, and must enroll full-time in an accredited college, university, or vocational/technical program for the fall 2026 semester.
- 2) The applicant must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.
- 3) The applicant must provide a transcript.
- 4) The applicant must be involved in community service or other volunteer activities and provide verification of a minimum of 50 hours of service.
- 5) Preference will be given to applicants who are African American graduates who reside in Seminole or Volusia County.
- 6) **The selected applicant must provide Confirmation of Enrollment no later than four months after the start of the fall 2026 semester classes. If the confirmation is not received, the scholarship will be forfeited and may be awarded to another applicant.**
- 7) Please submit a photo along with the application.

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$500

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

All applications must be received or postmarked by March 13, 2026. **Late applications will not be considered.** Recipients will receive notification by May 1, 2026.

- 1) **NOTE:** Selected applicants are required to attend a reception on Thursday, June 4, 2026 for the awards presentation ceremony. Please add this date to your calendar. Failure to RSVP, will result in the scholarship being forfeited.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** (Please print legibly.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_ First Generation Student\* Yes ☐ No ☐

**EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Guidance Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Post-Secondary School(s) to which you have applied:

\_\_\_\_\_ Accepted \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_\_ Accepted \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Community Service Hours \_\_\_\_\_

**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION:**

Please attach one letter of recommendation from a teacher or guidance counselor and an unofficial transcript. Additionally, please attach a list of all activities, awards, and any other personal achievements and/or factors you would like to be considered. This list should show a history of your activities in school and in the community. A letter confirming community service hours from the organization(s) where the hours were earned must be included with your application.

**ESSAY:**

Please attach a 500-word essay detailing the following:

- Describe your academic or personal challenges. How have they motivated you to succeed?
- With all that you have encountered, why is it important to give back (community service) and receive a post-secondary education?
- If you are awarded the “Pearlie Lift Up” Scholarship, how will you use your education to “pay it forward” and help others?

Your essay will be judged on its content, not your writing style. Each area listed above **must** be addressed in your essay.

**NOTE:** All supporting documents must be included at the time of application submission. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

\*The formal definition of a first-generation college student is a student whose parents did not complete a four-year college degree.

*I understand that completion of this application authorizes the Pearlie Mae Ford Community Service Club of Sanford, Inc., to release information to prospective donors. I understand that if selected for this award, my name and photograph will be published.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date