



MONTANA COFFEE TRADERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

This program is managed by Whitefish Community Foundation and will award two, \$1,000 scholarships in 2026:

- **One, \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to an eligible Montana Coffee Traders employee, or to a child or legal dependent of a current employee.** The applicant must have been employed by Montana Coffee Traders within the year prior to the date of the application, or must be a child or legal dependent of a current employee of Montana Coffee Traders.
- **One, \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to an eligible Flathead Valley resident.** Applicant is not required to be associated with Montana Coffee Traders, but this scholarship may be awarded to an eligible employee or child of an eligible employee if the scholarship committee deems the applicant to be the best candidate.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM HISTORY:

Montana Coffee Traders (MCT) has been roasting coffee in their vintage farmhouse just south of Whitefish since 1981. With a current team of over 115 people across four Flathead Valley locations, MCT strives to be a positive part of people's everyday lives. As the company continues to grow and evolve, MCT works to deepen roots in the local community and further develop a connection to coffee farmers around the world.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The application deadline is March 31, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. MDT. Late applications will not be accepted. Awards will be announced in May, 2026.

Applications must be submitted online. The online application is available during the application window by logging into Whitefish Community Foundation's scholarship portal at:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=wcf scholarship>.

Applicants must meet the following requirements to be eligible for scholarship consideration:

- Have a high school or current college G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher (High school or college transcripts must be uploaded with the application.)

- Preference will be given to individuals with a proven history of community involvement/volunteerism and a strong work ethic.
- Provide a letter of recommendation from a current or former teacher/professor/instructor written in the academic year of the application **and** a letter of recommendation from a current or former employer or community involvement supervisor written in the academic year of the application. (NOTE: **Letters of recommendation will be uploaded by the person providing the reference, not by the applicant. Reference providers must upload their letters by the application deadline.**)
- Three essays written by the applicant addressing the following topics:
 - Special attribute(s) or accomplishment(s) that set the applicant apart from the crowd
 - What the applicant believes they are capable of achieving once they have earned a college degree. This may be explained in terms of life goals, career goals, and/or goals within the community.
 - Description of volunteer activities in which the applicant has chosen to participate, why applicant chose those particular volunteer activities, and how those experiences have affected applicant's life.
- Intend to enroll at a post-secondary educational institution in the fall of 2026 (all scholarships are paid directly to the institution upon verification of enrollment).
- Submit a completed application by the application deadline.

Please contact Jill Seigmund at Whitefish Community Foundation with questions:
jill@whitefishcommunityfoundation.org or 406.863.1781