



2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Buffalo Urban League Scholarship. We congratulate you on your decision to continue your education by attending college or vocational school! Our goal is to invest financial resources to help support your education. Scholarship awards are provided in consideration of academic achievement, character, community services, and financial need.

ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible for the Buffalo Urban League scholarship consideration, you must be a **High School Senior who will be graduating during the 2025-2026 academic year or recent HSE/GED recipient (within the current academic year) and plans to attend college or a vocational school in the fall of 2026.**

NATIONAL FUEL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

National Fuel awards one substantial scholarship per year for a total of four years to a college-bound senior. If you are interested in applying for the National Fuel Scholarship, **please see page 3 of this application for eligibility and candidate requirements.** Please know that applying for the Buffalo Urban League Scholarship **DOES NOT** automatically qualify you for the National Fuel Scholarship.

*Please complete this application in its entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered. **All the information collected is strictly confidential and will be used exclusively in making scholarship award decisions.** All applicants will be scheduled for an interview as part of the application process.*

DUE DATE: Friday, January 23, 2026

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Student ID: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Alternate Number: _____
E-Mail Address: _____
Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Gender: Female Male Place of Birth: _____
Numbers of years in Erie County: _____ U.S. Citizen: YES NO

Ethnicity:

☐ Black or African American ☐ Caucasian ☐ Hispanic ☐ Native American or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian
☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander ☐ Other (please define) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

HIGH SCHOOL/HSE INFORMATION – Please attach a copy of your high school transcript and one report card showing at least 2 marking periods of your senior year. If you received your high school equivalency, please attach a copy of your HSE certificate.

High School: _____ Graduation Date: _____
HSE Program: _____ Date Received: _____

COLLEGE INFORMATION

Please list any colleges or vocational schools you have been accepted to. Please attach acceptance letters.

Anticipated Major: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Student Status (select one): Full Time Student Part Time Student

Student Aid Index (as listed on FAFSA Submission Summary): _____
(Please include a copy of your FAFSA Submission Summary)

What are your future career goals?

ABOUT YOU – Please answer the following questions in complete sentences. Fill this section out in completely. You may include a résumé with your application. Do not write “see résumé”.

Are there any special circumstances which affect your educational needs? Please describe.

List all past or present extracurricular activities that you have participated in along with your position/role. This includes participation in community organizations, the arts, and cultural activities.

List any awards, honors, or commendations you have received.

ESSAY – This essay should be **between 300-500 words long, typed, double spaced, and in 12 pt. font**. Any applications without the essay attached will not be considered for a scholarship. This essay **MUST** reflect the topic outlined below. Please do not send an essay unless it addresses this topic.

TOPIC: *What is the most significant challenge facing your generation, and what solutions would you propose to address it?*

NATIONAL FUEL SCHOLARSHIP

As part of National Fuel Gas Company Foundation's commitment to recruit high-quality candidates from across Western New York, who are interested in working within the energy sector, National Fuel will award a four-year scholarship of \$15,000 per year.

As one of the earliest natural gas companies in the U.S. incorporated in 1902, today National Fuel is a diversified energy organization headquartered in Western New York that operates an integrated collection of gas and oil assets. For 120 years, National Fuel has provided a safe, reliable, and affordable source of energy, while contributing to the economic health of the communities where we live and work. Since 2005, after the formation of the National Fuel Gas Company Foundation, the company and its employees have donated more than \$22 million to charitable organizations. National Fuel's partnership with the Buffalo Urban League helps to support its mission of empowering African Americans, other minorities, and disadvantaged individuals to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights. Scholarship recipients will participate in several events at National Fuel's corporate office, including luncheons, tours, shadowing opportunities, and informational sessions. Scholars will be assigned a mentor and are required to reach out twice during the semester to their mentor. In addition to the mentoring program, there will be opportunities for paid internships each year. Scholars will be required to provide a copy of their transcript at the end of each school year.

ELIGIBILITY

To apply for this scholarship, you must be a college-bound senior in good academic standing. You must enroll in college with a major in construction management, information technology (e.g., programming, cyber security, software engineering), business administration or mechanical engineering.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

If you are interested in applying for the National Fuel Scholarship, please submit a separate personal statement. In your statement, explain why you are interested in a career related to construction management, information technology (e.g., programming, cybersecurity, software engineering), business administration, or mechanical engineering. Additionally, describe what has inspired your interest in this field and how your background, education, or personal experiences have prepared you to pursue it.

ESSAY QUESTION

What role has National Fuel played in the Buffalo community? (Minimum of 250 words)

"If you smell gas, leave fast! Then contact National Fuel at 1-800-444-3130 or call 911 from a different location."

Please note that applying for the Buffalo Urban League Scholarship does NOT automatically qualify a student for the National Fuel Scholarship. You must submit the additional documents listed above as requested by National Fuel to be considered.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The following items MUST be submitted no later than Friday, January 23, 2026:

- ☐ Completed application – all areas of the application must be completed. A resume is not a substitute for a completed application but may be enclosed as a supplemental/supporting document.
- ☐ An official copy of your High School Transcripts or copy of your High School Equivalency diploma
- ☐ 2 Letters of recommendation – these must be original recommendations for the Buffalo Urban League Scholarship Program
- ☐ Essay (300-500 words, typed, double spaced answering this question: **What is the most significant challenge facing your generation, and what solutions would you propose to address it?**)
- ☐ A photo of yourself following these guidelines (photo **MUST** be emailed to scholarships@bulny.org):
 - Picture is of you alone.
 - Picture must be clear (please do not take a picture of the picture you want to use)
 - Appropriately dressed (yearbook pictures or senior portraits work best)
 - No selfies with your phone showing in the picture.
 - No dark lighting or inappropriate backgrounds (i.e., the bathroom)
 - No filters, graphics, or words on the picture (that includes watermarks)
- ☐ Applicant Signature
- ☐ Parent or Guardian Signature (if under the age of 18)

The following items need to be submitted to be considered for the Buffalo Urban League Scholarship but can be submitted after Friday, January 23, 2026:

- ☐ College acceptance letter(s)
- ☐ FAFSA Submission Summary – MUST show Student Aid Index (SAI) number. Your name must appear on the report.
- ☐ A copy of your report card showing two marking periods for your senior year
- ☐ Financial award letters/offers received from any colleges you have been accepted to

Applications can be submitted to:

**Buffalo Urban League
15 Genesee Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
ATTN: Scholarship Committee**

Applications can also be submitted to scholarships@bulny.org in PDF format ONLY. **(Please do not send pictures of documents)**

Both the applicant's signature and the parent/guardian's signature are required. Any applications without signatures will be considered incomplete and will not be processed.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If you have any questions regarding this application, or the status of your application, please contact the Scholarship Department at (716) 250-2412 or at scholarships@bulny.org.

For more information on other programs and services we offer, please visit www.bulny.org.