



# EQUALITY IN EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Presented by Equality Loudoun - Community, Advocacy, Education, & Defense

Submission Deadline: April 15th, 2023

**Summary:**

The Equality in Education scholarships are designed to help members of the LGBTQ+ community in Loudoun County who have ambitions of higher education to achieve their goals, thereby benefiting society by lifting up a diverse and inclusive group of educated voices to become the 21st century leaders of tomorrow. As a charitable non-profit organization, Equality Loudoun envisions an inclusive community where LGBTQ+ people and other marginalized groups are fully embraced by active allies and can live safely and openly.

**Selection:**

The selection shall be based primarily upon the response to the applicant’s essay using a numerical scoring rubric. The goal is to select an applicant who demonstrates a history or goal of embodying the core values of Equality Loudoun: Community, Advocacy, Education, Inclusion, and Defense of the LGBTQ+ community. Additional points shall be awarded based on responses to the application to include financial need, intersectional minority status, and other criteria. A decision shall be made by June 1st. Awardees shall be invited to receive their scholarship at the Loudoun Pride Festival on June 4, 2023.

**Eligibility:**

To determine eligibility, please acknowledge you meet the following criteria:

- I am a graduating (2023) senior at a Loudoun County public or private school.
- I am 18 years or older or applying with permission of my parent(s) or guardian(s).
- I am a member of the LGBTQ+ community or the child of an LGBTQ+ individual.
- I am seeking to further or continue my education.
- I shall accept, without contest, the binding decision of Equality Loudoun.
- I understand this is a one-time award and shall not include any future compensation.
- I permit Equality Loudoun to publish information relating to the scholarship, if I should win, to include my name, school, and a picture for marketing purposes.

**Applicant Information:**

Name:	
Pronouns:	
Email address:	
Address:	
How do you identify within the LGBTQ+ community?	

Do any of the following description apply to you? (Please check all that apply.)

- First-generation immigrant
- Member of the BIPOC community
- Adopted or in foster care
- Unhoused or housing insecure
- Passed the GED or TASC
- Currently transitioning

**Academic Information:**

Current School:	
Current GPA:	
Planned future education:	
Future field of study:	

**Financial Need:** Please include two sentences that speak, in your own words, to your financial need.

**Qualifiers:** Please include any community service, club, organization, awards, or other notable service:

**Essay Submission:**

Please address one or more of the following topics:

- How do you embody the principles of community, advocacy, inclusion, education, and defense?
- How have you or do you plan to advance the mission of Equality Loudoun or other service organizations?
- How has growing up as an LGBTQ+ individual or the child of an LGBTQ+ individual affected your life?
- What challenges have you overcome or lessons have you learned as part of the LGBTQ+ community?
- What does being part of the LGBTQ+ community mean to you?

**Requirements:**

- Minimum length is 500 words.
- Must be typed with black, common-use font.
- Must be submitted in a Word, PDF, or Google Doc file, if electronic. Submission should be attached to or sent with this application.
- Essay must be based on your true, lived experience.

**To submit:**

You may submit your application via any of these methods:

- Email it to [contact@eqloco.com](mailto:contact@eqloco.com)
- Mail it to PO BOX 4214, Leesburg, VA 20175 (must be received by May 1, 2023)

**Awardee Agreement:**

If you are selected as the recipient, you will have to make a determination on how to receive your scholarship. The scholarship shall be awarded as a check that can either be made to you directly or to the educational institution directly. If you choose to have your check issued directly to you, you shall be responsible for reporting that as income and paying taxes on the full amount awarded as required by federal, state, and local applicable laws.

Upon notification of award, you must provide information within 90 days to determine the distribution of the scholarship. Otherwise, your award may be forfeit and provided to another applicant.

**Disbursement:**

In 2023, Equality Loudoun has determined the goal for total scholarship awards shall be set at \$10,000. The awards shall be selected based on need and no set amount is guaranteed for any recipient.

**Submission Agreement:**

By signing this application, I agree that all information is true to the best of my knowledge and ability and that I agree to the terms and conditions of the scholarship as listed here. I understand and agree that the terms and conditions may change at any time, with or without notice, before or after my submission. Any falsification on this submission shall result in disqualification. I agree that the decision shall be reached by the Board of Directors of Equality Loudoun, by the method of their choosing, and that such decision shall be binding. In the event I am not selected as a scholarship recipient, I agree that I shall pursue no recourse. I agree that I shall continue to try to improve the world.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date