

2026 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The scholarship program includes the WPEA Lifetime Labor leader Scholarships that were introduced in 2017 and the WPEA Future Labor Leader Scholarship. These scholarships, which will be awarded for use this fall include:

-  **1 - \$5000 WPEA Future Labor Leader Scholarship**
-  **1 - \$3000 WPEA Lifetime Labor Leader Scholarship**
In memory of Earl Kalles, former WPEA Secretary-Treasurer
and long-time member at the Liquor Control Board
-  **1 - \$3000 WPEA Lifetime Labor Leader Scholarship**
In memory of Patti Pollardo, former WPEA Vice President
and long-time member at Edmonds Community College
-  **4 - \$1000 WPEA Scholarships**

WPEA will begin accepting applications on April 20, 2026. Applications must be emailed to Scholarships@wpea.org by June, 25, 2026. All submission packets must be sent as a single .pdf file to be accepted. Only emailed applications will be accepted. Decisions to be announced by the end of July.

Scholarship information

The scholarship may be used for any of the recipient's educational expenses, such as tuition, fees, books, supplies, etc.

Applicants must be admitted into a program that leads to a degree or certification and enrolled at an accredited public or private institute of higher education for classes during Fall 2026. WPEA will verify enrollment prior to awarding the scholarship monies.

At the time of application and award, applicants must be dues-paying members-in-good-standing of the Washington Public Employees Association, or are the member's spouse, registered domestic partner, child, grandchild, mother, father, sister, or brother.

The Scholarship Committee will be basing its award decisions on merit, defined not only by grades but also by professional goals, and an appreciation of labor history and ideals. Preference will also be given to WPEA members. The decision of the committee is final.