

Belong Scholarship Fund 2023

First Year Applicant

Due Date: April 15, 2023

Due to: Belong!
scholarships@belongvienna.org

Award Amount:

Up to \$2,500 per semester (up to \$5,000 per school year)



About this Scholarship: The Belong! Scholarship Fund has been established to help students with financial need imagine a future that includes further education after high school.

Student Eligibility Criteria:

- James Madison, George C. Marshall, or Oakton High School Senior or former student of JMHS, GMHS, or OHS with a GPA of at least 3.0 (graduated within the past 3 years from JMHS, GMHS, OHS) planning to enroll part-time or full-time at Northern Virginia Community College or a Certificate Program as part of a trade or technical school (including Adult and Community Education Certificates Programs).

☒ Application Requirements for First Year Applicants:

- Completed [Google Form](#).
- Two letters of recommendation - from school teachers and/or counselor. Letters should be sent directly to scholarships@belongvienna.org.
- One copy of JMHS, GMHS, or OHS transcript
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or if ineligible to complete FAFSA, please complete the Virginia Alternative State Aid (VASA) form and share with us.
- Resume: Extracurricular activities such as jobs, community involvement, sports, and any (including personal) experience, skills, hobbies, or accomplishments in leadership roles.
- Essay: Be sure to write about ALL items below, not to exceed 750 words (double spaced):
 1. What do you plan on studying, what type of school do you plan on attending, what time frame do you plan on graduating, and what degree do you plan on ultimately obtaining?
 2. Please explain your motivation for pursuing this area of study and how you think attending NVCC, or a trade or technical school will help you achieve your academic goals.
 3. What are your future career goals or aspirations? Please explain what you hope to achieve professionally with the path you have chosen to follow. How do you see yourself using your degree?
 4. Why you should be selected to receive this scholarship (for example, how your background has shaped you, obstacles you have overcome, relevant personal successes and achievements, etc.).
 5. Include a brief description of your financial need.

Additional Information:

- Student must agree to meet with a Belong! Scholarship advisor at least twice a semester and attend tutoring sessions if struggling.
- Applications and all supporting documents should be submitted to Belong! at scholarships@belongvienna.org or mail to 133 Park Street, NE, Vienna, VA 22180 **NO LATER THAN APRIL 15, 2023**. Please make sure to include your first and last name on **all pages** submitted.
- If the cost of a certificate program is less than \$5,000 per year, a portion of the scholarship can be used to pay other expenses and transportation as needed.
- The scholarships will be awarded each year. Successful completion of the awarded scholarship year will allow students to apply for a second-year scholarship the following academic year. Please note, a previous award does not automatically guarantee a second-year award.
- For questions, contact Belong at scholarships@belongvienna.org.