

Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation

Melvin & Kathryn Johnson Scholarship Application



ATTENTION!

See next page for Scholarship Requirements.

Requirements for 2026

One Complete Package:

Scholarship application, transcript(s) and current letters of recommendation MUST be submitted simultaneously, in one complete package before the deadline.

Application Deadline:

The application deadline for 2026 is April 1.

Official Transcript(s):

Official Transcript(s)* are required from all Educational Institutions to help maintain integrity and excellence.

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FOR A TRANSCRIPT TO BE CONSIDERED “OFFICIAL” IT MUST BE SIGNED AND SEALED BY THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND SUBMITTED, UNOPENED AND INTACT, WITH YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION.**

YELLOWSTONE BOYS & GIRLS RANCH FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Melvin and Kathryn Johnson Scholarship Program

It is the goal of Melvin and Kathryn Johnson in creating this Scholarship Program to provide continuing educational opportunities through scholarships in the annual amounts of \$500 - \$5,000 to McCone County residents who graduate from Circle High School and other nearby public high schools, who demonstrate and maintain academic achievement and who possess motivation, good character, ability and potential.

YELLOWSTONE BOYS & GIRLS RANCH FOUNDATION

JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Eligibility

Candidates for a Scholarship must meet the following criteria:

1. Students must be a U. S. resident and a resident of McCone County at the time of graduation from high school and have graduated from Circle High School or another public high school.
2. Students must be or going to be a degree candidate at an accredited two or four year institution, including vocational schools, which normally maintain a regular faculty and curriculum and normally have a regularly enrolled body of students in attendance at the place where its educational activities are regularly carried on (“Educational Institution”). Students must begin attendance the fall term immediately after graduation.
3. Students applying during the final term of their senior year of high school must have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above for all completed terms of high school.
4. Students applying while attending an Educational Institution must have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above for all terms of high school and for all completed terms at all Educational Institutions.
5. Students must postmark or submit a substantially complete application with the required official transcript(s) and current letters of recommendation by the application deadline. The application, transcript(s) and letters of recommendation must be submitted simultaneously, in one complete package. Recipients who do not timely notify Yellowstone Foundation of any relevant changes in their plans, such as: not attending an Educational Institution, attending a different Educational Institution, a change in tuition or fees, or grant or scholarship amounts to be received, may have their scholarship reduced or revoked, and may be deemed ineligible for future scholarships, as determined by Yellowstone Foundation.
6. Students are only eligible for up to four school years of scholarships, beginning the first school year and ending the fourth school year after high school graduation. If a student is not eligible for a scholarship one year, the student will lose one of the four years of eligibility; however, the student can still be selected the next year for one of the remaining four years of eligibility, if the student has any left, as long as the eligibility requirements are met at that time.

7. A student who is, or whose spouse is, descended from or a sibling to Melvin or Kathryn Johnson or a current Advisor or a person who has served as an Advisor in the 5 year period ending on the date when the Advisors make scholarship recommendations to Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation (“Yellowstone Foundation”), or who is a “disqualified person” as defined in IRC Section 4958(f) (1), as amended, with respect to Yellowstone Foundation, is ineligible.

Selection Criteria

1. Prior academic performance, including grades and difficulty of courses completed.
2. Motivation, character, ability and potential based on current letters of recommendation from an unrelated party such as a clergy member, high school counselor, youth group leader or teacher, and, if required by the Advisory Committee, a personal interview.
3. No candidate will be denied consideration or selection because of race, religion, gender, nationality or ethnic group.

Number, Amount And Use of Scholarships

1. A maximum of 5 scholarships will be awarded to eligible students in each of the 4 eligible classes each year, beginning with the high school classes of 2014 and 2015 for the 2015 – 2016 academic year. The class of 2014 will only be eligible for three years of scholarships. The class of 2015 and subsequent classes will be eligible for 4 years of scholarships unless the program terminates. However, if an eligible class does not have 5 eligible students, or it has 5 eligible students, but does not have 5 students selected, fewer than 5 scholarship recipients will be selected for that class for that year.
2. The total amount awarded for scholarships in any year will be the value of the Scholarship Fund in excess of \$1,000,000 as of close of business on March 31, or the closest business day, of that year. If the value of the fund is less than \$1,000,000 on that date, only the minimum \$500 per student scholarship will be awarded. The amount of each scholarship will be determined by dividing the total amount to be awarded for that year by the total number of scholarships recipients, however not to exceed \$5,000 per student and (except as provided in paragraph 3 below) not less than \$500 per student.
3. Scholarships are only for tuition and fees required for enrollment or attendance of a student at an Educational Institution. Scholarship amounts shall not exceed a student’s tuition and fees minus any grants or other scholarships. Unused scholarship amounts in a year, will not be carried forward, but will be kept in or added back

to the Scholarship Fund. If a student withdraws from the institution during the time when tuition and fees can be refunded, they must be returned to the Scholarship Fund. Payment will be made directly to each recipient's Educational Institution.

Application Process

Please return the completed application form, including an **official transcript(s)** for all completed terms of high school and completed terms official of post-secondary education (if any), and two current letters of recommendation from unrelated people, such as a clergy member, school counselor, youth group leader or teacher, to the Circle High School counselor, 1105 F Avenue, Circle, MT 59215. **The application, transcript(s) and letters of recommendation must be submitted simultaneously, in one complete package.** Only substantially complete applications with required transcript(s) and current letters of recommendation received by Circle High School by April 1st in one complete package will be considered. If April 1 falls on a weekend, the application deadline is the next Monday following April 1. For further information call the Circle High School Counselor at (406) 485-3600 or Yellowstone Foundation at (406) 656-8772.

Responsibilities of Recipient

Recipients must immediately notify Yellowstone Foundation at (406) 656-8772 or kristi@yellowstonefoundation.org of any relevant changes in their plans or qualification status, such as: not attending an Educational Institution, attending a different Educational Institution, or a change in tuition or fees, or grant or scholarship amounts to be received.

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Scholarship Funds are administered by Yellowstone Boys and Girls Foundation
YELLOWSTONE BOYS & GIRLS RANCH FOUNDATION

JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. Applicant's Name _____
2. Street Address (at time of graduation) _____
3. Current Mailing Address _____
4. Social Security Number _____ - _____ - _____
5. Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
6. Email Address _____
7. High School (where graduated or anticipate graduating) _____
8. Year of Graduation (or anticipate graduating) _____
9. For High School Seniors – Cumulative GPA for First 7 Semesters of High School _____
10. For High School Graduates:
 - a. Cumulative GPA for All of High School _____
 - b. Cumulative GPA for All Completed Terms at a Post-Secondary Educational Institution _____
11. College, University or Vocational School You Plan to Attend This Upcoming School Year:
 - a. Name _____
 - b. Location (City and State) _____
 - c. Office to Which Scholarship Payment Should Be Made (such as Office of the Registrar):

 - d. Address of Office to Which Scholarship Payment Should Be Made:

 - e. Intended Course of Study _____
12. Tuition and Fees for Upcoming School Year _____
13. Please list below the source and amount of any grants or scholarships you expect to receive for the upcoming school year (Please be sure to list any HOPE Scholarship Funds you will receive) (attach another page if necessary):

Name of Grant/Scholarship	Amount
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

You must notify Yellowstone Foundation immediately if there are any changes to your answer to questions 10 – 13. Failure to do so may result in reductions or termination of any scholarship granted and may disqualify you from future scholarships.

DUE DATE/REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: Please submit this application and the following documents by April 1 (or if April 1 is a weekend day, the due date is the first Monday after April 1) to:

Circle High School
Attn: Counselor's Office / RE: Johnson Scholarship
PO Box 99
Circle, MT 59215

1. If a High School Senior: An **official transcript** showing your cumulative GPA for first 7 semesters of High School.
2. If a High School Graduate:
 - a. An **official transcript** showing your cumulative GPA for all of High School; and
 - b. An **official transcript** showing your cumulative GPA for all completed terms at a post-secondary Educational Institution.

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3. Two current letters of recommendation from an unrelated party; such as a clergy member, school counselor, youth group leader or teacher discussing your motivation, character, ability and potential.

*Only substantially complete applications with required documents submitted by the due date, will be considered. **The application, transcript(s) and letters of recommendation must be submitted simultaneously, in one complete package.***

I (we) affirm the information reported is true, correct and complete to the best of my (our) knowledge. I (we) agree that I (we) will, on request, provide documentation necessary to verify information reported on this form. I (we) understand that falsification of information may result in reduction or termination of any scholarship granted and may disqualify me from any future scholarships.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if applicant under age 18)

Date

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Package Received (or post marked) ____ / ____ / ____

Does Applicant Meets Eligibility Requirements for Scholarship (Yes / No)
Recommended for Scholarship (Yes / No)

Approved:

Scholarship Advisory Committee Member

Date

Donor Account Manager/YBGR Foundation

Date

Johnson Scholarship Application

Check List

Be sure to enclose the following documents:

- Two Current Letters of Recommendation**
 - Letter one:**
 - Letter two:**

- Official Transcript(s)**
 - Official Transcript from High School where graduated.**

 - Official Transcript(s) from the Educational Institution(s) for all completed terms of post-secondary education.**

- Completed Johnson Scholarship Application**
 - All information is complete.**
 - All expected grants and scholarships are listed.**
 - Page two is signed and attached.**



"It sure makes a difference when you know somebody cares"