



Horry County Solid Waste Authority

PO Box 1664, Conway, SC 29528-1664

2025-2026 Environmental Scholarship Application

Deadline: Friday, February 6, 2026

Every year, the Horry County Solid Waste Authority (SWA) awards one graduating high school senior from each high school a one-time \$1,000 scholarship to encourage students pursuing a degree related to the environment, which supports SWA's mission of Protecting Tomorrow's Environment Today. To ensure that your application is reviewed and processed as quickly and accurately as possible, please read and follow these procedures and requirements as written:

Procedures

All applicants must:

- Complete the application and answer the essay personally.
- Enclose only the items requested in the requirements.
- Include on each attachment the applicant's name and address.
- Submit all attachments with the application form to ensure that all items are available for review at the same time.
- Send completed application to: Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Attn: Public Education, P.O. Box 1664, Conway, SC 29528-1664. *Faxes or emails will not be accepted.*
- **Deadline:** Be advised that only those applications postmarked on or before **February 6, 2026** will be considered.
- Be advised that applications become the property of the Horry County Solid Waste Authority and will not be returned to the applicant.
- Please understand that submitting this application is in no way a guarantee that a scholarship will be granted.
- The SWA Selection Committee reserves the right to reject any and all submissions.

Eligibility Requirements

All applicants must:

1. Be a graduating high school senior, attending a public school in Horry County.
2. Resident of Horry County (for at least one year).
3. Pursuing a degree related to the environment, public education, waste management or health promotions field.
4. Enrolled as a fulltime student for **Fall 2026**. (Documentation of acceptance into a higher education institution is required).
5. Submit application that is postmarked on or before **February 6, 2026**. **Late applications will not be considered. Please use sufficient postage.**
6. Provide a transcript of high school grades covering a minimum of six semesters. (The transcript need not be "official" and may be a photocopy.)
7. Have a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
8. Provide one signed letter of recommendation from a mentor, teacher, civic leader, or church leader who knows the applicant personally. (Endorsements from parents will not be accepted)

Applicant's Biographical Information

(Please type or print in black ink)

Name: _____
First Middle Last

Date of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Name of parent or guardian: _____
First Middle Last

School Information

Name of High School: _____

School Address: _____

Principal's Name / Email: _____

Guidance Name / Email: _____

School Telephone: _____

Academic Information

GPA: _____ SAT score: _____ ACT Score: _____

Anticipated date of high school graduation: _____

College Plans

In order of preference, list at least two college/ universities to which you have applied or plan to apply.

College/ University:

List your planned field of interest and what you plan to do when you graduate from college/ university?

Scholarship Recipient Volunteering and Mandatory Solid Waste Authority Board Meeting

If you are selected as the scholarship recipient, you will be asked to volunteer at one Horry County Solid Waste Authority Public Education event, such as a recycling presentation or special event. Volunteer responsibilities may include encouraging recycling with the public, distributing brochures, and/or assisting with projects at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority table / booth.

If you are selected as the scholarship recipient, you will also be asked to attend the April and/or May Solid Waste Authority Board Meeting. Date and times will be discussed with you, but please **understand that your attendance is mandatory to receive scholarship funds.**

Environmental Essay

Please answer the following questions in your own words. Please type the essay (at least 500 words) on a separate sheet.

What do you suggest to encourage interest and participation in recycling/environmental awareness i.e. contest, club, program, etc. in a high school setting?

What would you suggest to encourage interest and participation in recycling/environmental awareness in Horry County?

How can the environmental systems be improved in Horry County?

School Transcripts

Please attach your high school transcripts to this application covering a minimum of six semesters. (The transcript need not be "official" and may be a photocopy.)

Acceptance Letter

Please attach a college acceptance letter for the Fall 2026 school year.

Letter of Recommendation

Please attach one signed letter of recommendation from a mentor, teacher, civic leader, or church leader who knows the applicant personally. (Endorsements from parents will not be accepted)

Signature

I hereby authorize the Horry County Solid Waste Authority Selection Committee to request and obtain any further information it deems necessary. By signing below, I confirm that all information and statements on this form are true and correct.

Signature of Applicant

Date

I have read this application, and it has my approval.

Signature of Parent/ Guardian

Date

The Horry County Solid Waste Authority does not discriminate based on sex, race, ethnic background, disability, or religion.