



2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION Deadline to Apply: Thursday, April 17, 2026

Tops Friendly Markets is proud to partner with Taste of Buffalo, Inc. to award a \$1000 scholarship to a student pursuing a **degree in Culinary Arts/Culinary Arts Management such as Nutrition & Wellness, Holistic Nutrition, Food Entrepreneurship, Food Retail Operations, Restaurant Operations, Food Science, Dietetics, Food Stylist, Food Photography, etc.** The scholarship recipient will be selected based on the criteria and terms described on the last page of this scholarship application. *Please complete Tops Market and/or Taste of Buffalo Applications Separately*

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Date of Birth _____

E-mail Address _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's Name _____

College/University Planning to Attend

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Have you applied for admission? [] Yes [] No

Have you been accepted? [] Yes [] No

What will be your major field of study? _____

What degree are you seeking? _____

Expected date of graduation? _____

Current High School Attending

School _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

BACKGROUND (Attach additional pages if necessary)

What special recognition, awards or honors have you received?

Are you currently receiving any scholarship awards? Yes No

If yes, describe: _____

Amount: _____

List any extracurricular activities in which you presently participate:

List any community activities in which you are active:

Please describe your career goals following your graduation:

What kinds of contributions do you think you can make to the culinary arts/mgt. industry?

WORK EXPERIENCE (List most recent job first)

Position Held _____	Dates of Employment _____
Company _____	
Address _____	
City/State/Zip _____	

Position Held _____	Dates of Employment _____
Company _____	
Address _____	
City/State/Zip _____	

Are you planning to work part time while attending school? Yes No

If yes, number of expected work hours per week _____

Please give any additional information you feel will help the selection committee in their decision, including financial, academic, or personal information you wish to disclose.

(Attach additional page, if necessary)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Letters of Recommendation:** Submit TWO (2) letters of recommendation. One (1) from someone who is not a relative, but who knows you and can positively recommend your work and study habits, and one (1) from your School Counselor or a Teacher.
- **Transcript/Report Card:** Submit an official current high school transcript and your most recent report card.

I hereby certify that the information in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Date _____ Signed _____
(Applicant)

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE ENTIRE APPLICATION, SIGN, DATE IT AND RETURN TO:

Attn: Nancy Hejaily
Lancaster High School
1 Forton Dr.
Lancaster, NY 14086

CHECK BELOW TO BE SURE THAT YOU ENCLOSED ALL REQUIRED ELEMENTS:

- Application for Scholarship (this form)
- Two letters of recommendation (One personal; one from a High School Counselor or a Teacher)
- Transcript from your High School and your most recent report card

Please send this application, letters of recommendation, transcript, and report card as one complete package. An incomplete application package will not be considered.

CRITERIA AND TERMS

Applicants must be residents of Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, or Allegany counties in New York State and continuing their education in an accredited two or four-year school majoring in a Culinary Arts/Culinary Arts Management curriculum with plans to pursue a career path in Nutrition & Wellness, Holistic Nutrition, Food Entrepreneurship, Food Retail Operations, Restaurant Operations, Food Science, Dietetics, Food Stylist, or Food Photography to name a few. Scholarship recipients will be selected based on achievement, experience, enthusiasm, recommendations, school/community involvement, goals, and overall interest. *Please complete Tops Market and/or Taste of Buffalo Applications Separately*

The Scholarship Committee will choose one scholarship recipient. The recipient will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. **NOTE:** This scholarship is designated to be used for non-tuition college expenses, such as room/board, books, fees, etc. In order to receive the scholarship award, recipients will be required to provide proof of enrollment to the Scholarship Committee in the form of a tuition bill or a letter from the college of enrollment indicating that a tuition deposit has been paid.

The committee will choose alternates in the event that any of the recipients has a change in plans and does not enroll in a food service or hospitality program at an accredited two or four-year college or university. The scholarship recipients will be notified by e-mail and in writing no later than May 5, 2026. Scholarship recipients will be asked to sign a Publicity Release to grant permission to print their names, college plans and possible photographs on the Taste of Buffalo website and in the Taste of Buffalo festival guide distributed on tasteofbuffalo.com. Information about the recipient will also be sent as a news release to area media outlets.

Please contact Nancy Hejaily, Scholarship Liaison at nhejaily@lancasterschools.org if you have any questions.

Your completed application package must be received on or before April 17, 2026.