Jefferson Outreach for Youth

Scholarship Opportunity: More than a Good GPA!

The JOY Memorial Scholarship Fund is committed to the continuing legacy of David Bitner, who understood the ability of education to alter the course of young lives, their families, and his beloved community of Jefferson County, Florida.

This scholarship of $500 per semester will be awarded to an eligible and deserving student currently living in Jefferson County, Florida. The student must be between the ages of 17 and 20 and plan to enroll in a Florida community college, post-secondary vocational-technical school, or college-university for the 2026-2027 school year. Scholarship funds may be applied toward the cost of tuition, schoolbooks, fees, and required class supplies and may be combined with other scholarships awarded from other sources. Upon academic success, each semester (2.5 Average), and full-time enrollment, the scholarship of $500 is eligible to be renewed for up to 3 additional semesters, for a total of up to $2,000 per student.

Awards are intended for students with strong academic potential with challenging life circumstances and/or financial needs. If applicable, the student receiving the scholarship must have demonstrated academic excellence, ambition, strong character, and self-drive as shown by outstanding, unselfish achievement in school, community, and the workplace. Scholarship funds are paid directly to the educational institution the recipient is attending.

Applicants must complete a formal application and attach the following:

a) An essay of up to 500 words about their educational and career plans;
b) 1 or 2 letters of recommendations from school faculty members: teacher, coach, media specialist, administrator, guidance counselor (no more than two letters, please); and
c) 1 or 2 letters of recommendation from a Jefferson County community member who is not associated with the school (no more than two letters, please).

Submit the completed application along with the essay and letters of support to:

David Bitner Memorial Scholarship Fund
Jefferson Outreach For Youth
P.O. Box 25
Monticello, FL 32345

Deadline for submitting applications:
Thursday April 9, 2026 postmarked

Jefferson Outreach for Youth

David Bitner Memorial Scholarship Fund

Student Application

Application Date _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City_____Zip _____

Age_____ Phone Number _____

Please answer the following:

What is your grade point average for this current school year? _____

What is your overall grade point average for all your years of high school? ____

Do you volunteer in your community? Yes_____No _____

If you do volunteer work, please tell us what you do and how long you have been volunteering.

_____

Do you work after school or on weekends? Yes_____No _____

If you do work, please tell us where you work and how long you have been working at that place.

_____

Why are you applying for the David Bitner Memorial Scholarship Fund?

_____

_____

Guardian Information

Name _____

Street Address (if different than above) _____

City_____Zip _____

Contact Information

Home Phone_____Other _____