



# Wayne D. Lett Scholar Program

## Overview

The Wayne D. Lett Scholar Program is a merit-based award given to a Newport News Public School Senior who plans to be a teacher and will make a commitment to teaching in Newport News Public Schools upon college graduation. The \$10,000 scholarship is disbursed in four \$2,500 annual awards consisting of \$1,750 per year from the NN Education Foundation and \$750 per year from the Lett family. The Program is administered by the Newport News Education Foundation as a tribute to Wayne D. Lett, Ed.D., former superintendent of Newport News Public Schools, an outstanding educator who retired after 34 years of service in public education.

The student chosen as the Wayne D. Lett Scholar will receive an offer of employment as a teacher in the Newport News school system upon graduation from college. The recipient must commit to teach in Newport News for three consecutive years after graduation. The recipient will also have the option to complete a student teaching assignment in the school division.

## Selection Criteria for Scholarship

- Submit a 500- word essay with scholarship application explaining why you want to become a teacher.
- Possess at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA through high school graduation (transcript required).
- Provide documented record of extracurricular school activities and community involvement.
- Make a commitment to teaching for three consecutive years in Newport News Public Schools.

## Scholarship Award Schedule

- \$2500.00 Awarded at the beginning of the college freshman year
- \$2500.00 Awarded at the beginning of the college sophomore year
- \$2500.00 Awarded at the beginning of the college junior year
- \$2500.00 Awarded at the beginning of the college senior year

## Responsibilities of Scholarship Recipient

- Student will attend college on a full-time basis
- Student will maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 through college graduation
- Consider option to student teach in NNPS
- In the event that recipient's employment with NNPS terminates less than three years for any reason, he/she agrees to reimburse the NNEF for a pro rata share of the scholarship funds paid on their behalf.

## Application Procedure

Newport News Public School high school seniors should submit a completed application and 500-word essay to the Newport News Education Foundation at 12507 Warwick Boulevard, Newport News, VA 23606 by April 16, 2025. A Foundation committee will interview the finalists and name the recipient in April. The recipient will be invited to attend the Newport News Educational Foundation's *Salute to Success* banquet honoring the division's top scholars. The winner will be recognized at the banquet and have the opportunity to meet Dr. Wayne D. Lett.

Newport News Public Schools  
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