

Sheila B. Jones Environmental Education Scholarship 2025 Application



The Sheila B. Jones Environmental Education Scholarship, offered by the **Friends of the Wake Soil and Water Conservation District**, supports students who are pursuing a career in environmental education (EE), especially those who have faced financial or other barriers. This scholarship honors the legacy of Sheila B. Jones, retired environmental educator who made a big difference in the field in her career working for the Wake Soil and Water Conservation District.

One student will receive a one-time \$1,000 scholarship. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate their deep passion for environmental education, a clear vision of their career goals, and a genuine need for financial support to pursue their educational aspirations.

Eligibility:

- High school seniors in a Wake County school who have been accepted into a college and are planning to pursue a career in environmental education
- Current college students in NC colleges with residence in Wake County who are actively pursuing a career in environmental education
- Past applicants may re-apply, but not past award recipients.

Required application materials:

- ☐ Information forms (pages 2-5 of this document)
- ☐ Transcript(s)
- ☐ One letter of recommendation
- ☐ Essay (400-500 words)

The 2025 application period opens on January 17, and closes on April 17 at 5:00 pm

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

There are two options for submitting your application; you may choose which one to do.

PAPER: Print and Mail

1. Print this PDF and fill out by hand.
2. Print your transcript(s), letter of recommendation, and essay.
3. Place all of your application documents in an envelope and mail to the following address:

**Wake Soil and Water Conservation District
4001-D Carya Drive,
Raleigh, NC, 27610**

DIGITAL: Fill and Email

1. Download this PDF and fill it out digitally.
2. Attach completed application in an email along with your transcript(s), letter of recommendation, and essay.
3. Email to Leah Purvis at leah.purvis@wake.gov

Applicants will receive an email confirmation within 1-3 days after the application is received. Please contact Leah Purvis if you have any questions or don't receive the email confirmation.

Leah Purvis, Environmental Educator
Wake Soil and Water Conservation District
Email: leah.purvis@wake.gov
Phone: (919) 250-1065

The Friends of the Wake Soil and Water Conservation District scholarship selection committee will review and score all applications.

If awarded, you will be notified in mid-May 2025. Thank you for your interest!

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name:
First Middle Initial Last

Permanent Address:

Street:

City: **State:** **Zip code:**

Phone: **Email:**

Gender:

Race/Ethnicity:

Pronouns:

How did you learn about this scholarship?

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: (attach)

Please provide one letter of recommendation from a high school teacher, guidance counselor, college professor, or other mentor/supervisor.

ESSAY: (attach)

Please include a 400-500 word essay addressing *all* of the following:

- What people, experiences, and ideas have inspired you to pursue a career in Environmental Education?
- There are many ways to be an Environmental Educator. What is your dream role and/or work setting, and why?
- Describe your level of financial need for this scholarship, or any circumstances that have presented major barriers to you in pursuing this career path.
- How do you plan to use the \$1,000 scholarship?

SCHOOL INFORMATION

On this page, only fill out the section that applies to your *current status* as a high school student OR college student.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

Name of High School: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

College Preferences:

Accepted? (Yes/No)

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Intended major(s) or interest area(s) listed in order of preference:

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Current GPA: _____

TRANSCRIPT: *Please attach your most recent transcript of your high school courses and grades.*

COLLEGE STUDENT

Name of College: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

What year are you?

- ☐ Freshman
- ☐ Sophomore
- ☐ Junior
- ☐ Senior

What degree are you currently pursuing?

Major: _____ Minor (optional): _____

Current GPA: _____

TRANSCRIPT: *Please attach both your high school and college transcripts.*

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – PAGE 1

List all relevant extracurricular activities and awards that demonstrate your interest, experience, and/or skills in environmental education. Please be specific.

Internships & Employment			
Organization	Role	Responsibilities	Year(s)

Clubs			
Organization	Role	Responsibilities	Year(s)

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – PAGE 2

List all relevant extracurricular activities and awards that demonstrate your interest, experience, and/or skills in environmental education. Please be specific.

Volunteer Work			
Organization	Role	Responsibilities	Year(s)

Research, Presentations, & Awards			
Organization	Role	Responsibilities	Year(s)