

The Dude Ranch Foundation Scholarship Program

P.O. Box 2307, Cody, Wyoming 82414
Email: info@duderanchfoundation.org | Phone: 307-586-1831



General Purpose Statement

The Dude Ranch Foundation Scholarship Program aims to support the future of the dude ranching industry by providing financial assistance to students pursuing educational programs that will benefit both their careers and the industry. Enrollment in traditional four-year colleges is not required.

We accept applications for online schools, junior colleges, and trade schools. Our criteria are broad and flexible, and financial need may be considered in the selection process. Apply today and invest in your future!

Application Requirements

- Connection to Dude Ranching:** Applicant must have ties to the dude ranch industry and be a U.S. or Canadian citizen. Preference is given to those working with a Dude Ranchers' Association ranch or office during the scholarship year.
- Accredited School:** Must attend an accredited high school, college, online program, or trade school, with priority given to those studying fields directly benefiting the dude ranch industry.
- Full-Time Enrollment:** Must be enrolled as a full-time student in high school, trade school, junior college, or university.
- Application Materials:** Submit the application, transcript, essay, and three references by March 15, 2026.
- Interview:** A personal telephone interview is required.
- Transcript:** Recipients must submit

Essay Requirements Summary:

In your essay, please provide examples of your life or ranching experiences that highlight your character. Explain why you're interested in this scholarship, why you qualify, and how it will impact your life, including your financial need. Additionally, describe your current connection to dude ranching and your future goals within the industry.

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Scholarship Application

Materials must be postmarked by March 15, 2026, or they will not be considered for a scholarship.

Name _____ SS No. _____ Date _____

Home Address _____

Email Address _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____ Marital Status _____

Your address while at school _____

Phone Number for the Interview _____ Student ID Number _____

Name and Address of the Financial Aid Office of the School you will attend _____

Are you currently enrolled/accepted for enrollment at this school? Yes _____ No _____

Major(s) _____

List all other colleges you have attended and your reasons for leaving. _____

Explain how the degree or certificate you will receive will help you enter into a career in dude ranching.

What is the total cost of tuition and room and board at your college? _____

What percentage of your tuition are you currently paying? _____

Have you applied/do you plan to apply for financial aid? Yes _____ No _____

List other sources & amounts of financial aid you are currently receiving: _____

Will you be working while you are going to school? Yes _____ No _____

Will you agree to actively pursue and take a job on a Dude Ranchers' Association member ranch or at the DRA office for every year that you apply and receive this scholarship? Yes _____ No _____ If not, explain.

If you have had previous experience working on a dude ranch, list ranch name(s), location and dates:

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Transcript

Submit an official transcript from the Fall semester with the application at the end of each term.

Essay Requirements

- Give examples of your life or ranching experiences that demonstrate the quality of your character.
- Explain why you are interested and why you qualify for this scholarship.
- Comment on the impact of this scholarship to your life and your financial need.
- Explain your tie to dude ranching now and what you hope it to be in the future.

References

References for your application need to include the following:

- How do you know the applicant?
- Discuss the quality of the applicant's character and why you think this applicant should receive this scholarship.
- Do you think the applicant has a financial need for the scholarship?
- What impact do you think this scholarship would have on the applicant's life and future career in the dude ranch industry?

Have references send comments directly to the Dude Ranch Foundation postmarked by March 15, 2026 or to info@duderanchfoundation.org.

Please give the name and address of the persons whom you will use as references.

Personal Reference (someone who has known you for at least two years)

Name _____ Number of Years Known _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Instructor Reference

Name _____ Number of Years Known _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Employer Reference

Name _____ Number of Years Known _____

Address _____ Phone _____