



Making a positive difference in our community

“Hooked on Education” 2026 Scholarship Application

The Matlacha Hookers will grant scholarships to qualified applicants. Scholarships may be used for tuition, books or other acceptable costs of education for either a certification, licensing or technical program or toward a college degree, continuing education and trade/technical school. Notification of Scholarship winners will be made prior to the Hookers’ general meeting in June.

Applications must be completed *single sided*, submitted by U.S. Postal Service mail and postmarked no later than April 17, 2026

Mail your completed application packet to:

**Matlacha Hookers Scholarship Committee
PO Box 111
Matlacha, FL 33993**

For questions, please call Chairperson: Donna Trusik at 314-560-5074

**THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE SUBMISSION METHOD OR DEADLINE
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE REJECTED**

Required Qualifications

Seniors graduating 2026 or a High School Diploma or equivalent

AND

At least one of the following (check all that apply):

- Applicant is/has been a full time Greater Pine Island resident for one year or more.
- Former Pine Island Elementary student: Circle grades attended: K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- I am a current Matlacha Hooker or an immediate family member of a current Matlacha Hooker for one or more years.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

- Eligible and applying for the Trade School scholarship.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Type or print in ink *single-sided only*

Answer all questions in full.

(Answer N/A if not applicable)

This application will be rejected if these instructions are not followed

2026 Application Checklist

A complete application packet should be postmarked by the submission deadline and include the following items:

- o Application pages 1 thru 6
- o Application Essay
- o A copy of your high school or current higher-education transcript, including attendance record (high school students only).
- o Three Letters of recommendation. Each letter must be **dated 2026**. Refer to items to be included in your Letters of Recommendation.
 - a. High school students: 3 letters: 2 letters from teachers, and 1 letter from a guidance counselor, principal or a non-family member.
 - b. Applicants NOT attending school or an institution of higher education: 3 letters: If employed, submit 1 letter from your employer, and 2 letters from non-family members. If not employed, submit 3 letters from non-family members.
 - c. Applicants attending an institution of higher education: 3 letters: 2 letters from an instructor or advisor from your current school and 1 letter from a non-family member.
 - d. Applicants being home-schooled: 3 letters: 3 letters from non-family members, i.e. librarian, clergy or other community leader.

I hereby attest that all the information provided within this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

2026 Scholarship Application – “Hooked on Education”

APPLICANT INFORMATION

(PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Current Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Age: _____ Birth date: _____

List any extracurricular (high school or college-related) activities, clubs or employment in which you participated, including length of time involved in each (use additional sheet if needed):

List any community involvement or organizations and the time involved in each including year(s) of involvement (non-school related):

List any degrees, certificates, non-financial awards earned by or awarded to applicant:

List any financial awards or scholarships received or expected to receive. Include those offered by the schools you have applied to: _____

Weighted GPA: _____ Unweighted GPA _____

High School/GED graduation date: _____ College student current year _____

Last school attended (or present school): _____

I am on track to earn a Bright Futures Award Yes _____ No _____
Indicate level: FAS _____ FMS _____ GSV _____

Previous Recipient of Matlacha Hookers' Scholarship? _____ If so, what year? _____

EDUCATION GOALS

Name(s) and location of school(s) that have accepted you in this current year.:

First choice school _____

Annual Tuition cost \$ _____ Annual Housing cost \$ _____

Name(s) and location of school(s) or institution(s) that you are waiting to hear from: _____

Planned curriculum or course of study:

Application Essay

Write an essay of your background, career and academic goals and why you should receive this scholarship on separate page(s) as needed. You must personally compose and write this essay. This essay must be either typewritten or printed in ink and included with your application.

Add any special family or personal circumstances that the committee should consider.

2026 Letter of Recommendation Guidelines

Applicant: Please make additional copies of these guidelines as necessary and provide this information to those individuals that you have requested to write up a Letter of Recommendation on your behalf.

Letters of Recommendation:

1. Should be placed on appropriate letterhead whenever possible.
2. Must be dated in 2026 .
3. Must include the name of the applicant.
4. Indicate how long you have known the applicant and in what capacity.
5. Describe the applicant as a student/employee/person, in terms of effort versus ability.
6. Comment on the applicant's maturity, initiative, motivation and breadth of general knowledge.
7. Describe the applicant's skills in oral and written expression.
8. Describe the applicant's overall potential for success.
9. Describe why you think this applicant should be awarded a Matlacha Hookers' Scholarship
10. Please sign, date and include your address and phone number on the letter.

IMPORTANT: Letters of Recommendation must be returned to the applicant no later than one week before the application submission deadline of **April 17, 2026** to provide them sufficient time to organize and mail their application.