



South Dakota Retailers Association

P.O. Box 638 | Pierre, SD 57501 | www.sdra.org | (605) 224.5050 | donna@sdra.org

SDRA Scholarship Program - 2021/2022 School Year

These scholarships are awarded in honor of former SDRA Executive Director Jerry Wheeler.

In 2020, five scholarships were awarded in amounts ranging from \$2,000 to \$2,700.

The number of scholarships awarded and dollar amount of the scholarships varies each year.

Instructions

- Please type or print your answers. The essay portion may be submitted via YouTube rather than in written format.
- High school students are eligible if they meet education requirements; see eligibility criteria (page 4).
- Electronic version: A fillable PDF version of this application is available at sdra.org/scholarships.html.
- Deadline: Completed application, references and grade transcripts must be emailed or mailed to the South Dakota Retailers Association by April 19, 2021. Mailed applications must be postmarked by April 19, 2021.

Name & Contact Information

Name of applicant _____

Permanent mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell _____ Home phone _____

Email _____

If a South Dakota Retailers Association Board Member has a job opening that they think would match your skills or interests, can they contact you? If yes, please check the box at the left.

Scholastic Information

In the fall of 2021, applicant will be enrolled in:

Technical college / Trade school / Certified professional training institute

College / university

School you plan to attend in the fall of 2021 _____

Location of school (city) _____ (state) _____

Your major field/s of study _____

Number of credit hours you will be taking in the fall of 2021 (*approximate*) _____

Anticipated month and year of graduation _____

Approximately how many credit hours will you have completed by September 1, 2021?

_____ Technical college/trade school/training institute credit hours

_____ College/university credit hours

Application Checklist

Please check whether you are including the following with this application, or if they will be sent separately.

2 letters of reference (at least one from a business owner or business manager; do not provide a letter of reference from your parent)

Included

Will be sent separately

Most recent college, tech school or professional training institute grade transcript

Included

Will be sent separately

Essay (goals, personal challenge, accomplishments)

Included

Will be sent separately

High School Education

High school you attended _____

City _____ State _____

Month/year of graduation from high school _____

Obtained high school equivalency (such as a GED) Year _____ State _____

Education Information

Provide names of post-secondary schools you are currently attending or have attended previously.

Technical College • Trade School • College • University • Certified Professional Training Institute	Attended (from - to)	Major

Family

Please tell us in what occupation your parents/guardians are or were engaged (i.e. teacher, farmer, hardware store owner, bank teller, store clerk). For "place of employment", please provide the name of the company or agency the individual works/worked for or owns/owned.

1. Name of parent/guardian _____

Occupation _____

Place of employment _____ City/State _____

2. Name of parent/guardian _____

Occupation _____

Place of employment _____ City/State _____

Career Goals

Specific type of business you want to own, manage or work in _____

Position you plan to hold in that business _____

Where (city or state) would you like to be located? _____

Why do you want to live and work in that city or state? _____

5 STEPS TO TAKE WHEN APPLYING

1. **Application:** Fill out the application (please type or print).
2. **Goals:** Type or print your goals, challenges and accomplishments -or- submit via YouTube and email the link to donna@sdra.org (see page 3).
3. **Transcript:** Obtain a copy of your most recent grade transcript.
4. **References:** Obtain two letters of reference. At least one must be from a person who currently owns or manages a business. (NOTE: A "Business Manager" of a school or other entity does not qualify as a person who owns or manages a business.)
5. **Send it in:** Submit completed application, grade transcript, goals and accomplishments information, and letters of reference to SDRA by the deadline.

ELIGIBILITY

1. **Career in Retailing:** Applicant **must** desire a career in a retail or retail-related field.
2. **Type of School:** To be eligible, applicant must enroll in a retail or retail-related course of study at a qualifying, accredited technical school, college, university, or certified professional training institute in the fall of 2021. Enrollment in an online degree program from a qualifying school is acceptable.
3. **Retail/Retail-Related Field of Study:** Examples of fields of study considered to be retail or retail-related include (but are not limited to): Accounting, Agribusiness (*retail agribusiness, not operation of a farm or ranch*), Apparel Merchandising, Auto Mechanics, Automotive Technology, Business Administration, Business Management, Collision Repair, Computer Science, Commercial Baking, Culinary Arts, Diesel Mechanics, Electrical Maintenance, Gemology, Heating/Ventilation, Hotel/Restaurant Management, Landscape Design, Pharmacy, Photography, Printing Industries, Refrigeration, Sales/Marketing Management, and Tourism Industry Management. (NOTE: this list is not all-inclusive.)
4. **South Dakota Education:** Students must meet one of these requirements:
 - have graduated from a South Dakota high school -OR-
 - have earned high school equivalency (such as a GED) in South Dakota -OR-
 - plan to attend post-secondary school in South Dakota
5. **Post-secondary Credits Requirement / Work Experience in Lieu Of Education:**
 - Applicant must have completed at least 24 credits from a qualifying college or university, or 12 credits from a qualifying tech school or certified professional training institute by September of 2021 to be eligible. Nontraditional students: We will consider full-time post-secondary work experience in lieu of the post-secondary education requirement.
 - **High school seniors** are eligible if they have sufficient post-secondary school credits. Documentation of these credits - such as a grade transcript - must be provided.
6. **Credit Hours:** Student **must** enroll in 12 or more credit hours of classes at a qualifying post-secondary school or online degree program for the fall of 2021. (Internships do not qualify.)
7. **Prior Recipients:** Yes, previous recipients are eligible to apply.
8. **SDRA Scholarship Committee:** Children and spouses of current members of the SDRA Scholarship Committee are not eligible.

NOTIFICATION & PAYMENT

- **Recipient Announcement:** In July of 2021, all applicants will be notified by email or mail whether they have been selected as a scholarship recipient.
- **Payment:** All scholarships awarded will be paid directly to the school. If a recipient changes schools or majors, SDRA must be notified prior to funds being disbursed. SDRA will determine whether the applicant remains eligible for the scholarship.

BY SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION

The applicant certifies that they have answered all questions truthfully, and understands that the application and all accompanying materials may be confirmed by SDRA and will be used for the purpose of evaluation and selection by the Scholarship Committee.

Mail completed application:

South Dakota Retailers Association
P.O. Box 638 • Pierre, SD 57501

Email completed application:

donna@sdra.org

Fax completed application:

605.224.2059

Deadline

Application and other materials must be emailed, postmarked or faxed by April 19, 2021

For more information, call
605.224.5050

-or- email donna@sdra.org

FAQ

Q: If I graduated from a South Dakota high school or received a GED in South Dakota, but I'm going to attend college or tech school in another state, am I eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Q: To be eligible, the application says I must be enrolled in a school in the fall of 2021. Do I have to already be enrolled at the time I submit this application?

Answer: No.

Q: Are high school seniors eligible?

Answer: Students who are currently in high school are eligible if they have at least 24 college credits or 12 credits from a tech school or certified professional training institute. Documentation - such as a grade transcript - must be provided.