

Boy Scout Troop 145 “Be the Reason” Scholarship

The Boy Scout Troop 145 “Be the Reason” Scholarship will be given by *Friends of Troop 145* each year. One (1) scholarship will be given in our inaugural year (2026) in the amount of \$500. Future years may involve multiple scholarships. Recipient selection will be completed by *Friends of Troop 145*.

Criteria for this scholarship include the following:

- Student must be a high school senior
- Student must attend Arthur L. Johnson High School or affiliated vo-tech or magnet schools
- Student must have been a Boy Scout in Clark Troop 145 and achieved at least the rank of Life Scout
- Student must complete a simple application and write a short essay
- Financial need is NOT a requirement

Essay requirements:

Student should write a 500–750-word essay describing how Troop 145 has prepared them for life after high school and describe how Scouting will “Be the Reason” why they are successful in the future.

Essay Prompt

Describe how you live the Scout life in your daily actions. Explain how the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law have shaped your character, leadership, service to others, and future goals.

1. Understanding of Scouting Values (20%)

- Demonstrates a clear understanding of the **Scout Oath and Scout Law**
- Explains how these values extend **beyond Scouting activities** into everyday life
- Shows authenticity rather than repeating generic phrases

Excellent: Thoughtfully connects specific Scout values to real-life decisions

Adequate: Mentions Scout values with limited explanation

Weak: Lists values without meaningful reflection

2. Personal Experience & Reflection (25%)

- Uses **specific, personal examples** (leadership roles, service projects, challenges)
- Reflects on **growth, lessons learned, or ethical choices**
- Demonstrates self-awareness and maturity

Excellent: Compelling stories with clear personal insight

Adequate: Examples provided but reflection is surface-level

Weak: Vague or generalized experiences

3. Leadership & Service Impact (20%)

- Describes leadership roles or service activities clearly
- Explains **impact on others or the community**
- Shows initiative, responsibility, and perseverance

Excellent: Demonstrates meaningful leadership and measurable impact

Adequate: Participation described with limited impact detail

Weak: Minimal leadership or service involvement

4. Application Beyond Scouting (20%)

- Shows how Scouting principles guide:
 - School
 - Work
 - Family
 - Community involvement
- Connects values to **future goals, career, or civic responsibility**

Excellent: Clear, realistic connection to long-term goals

Adequate: Future goals mentioned with limited linkage

Weak: No clear connection beyond Scouting

5. Writing Quality & Organization (15%)

- Clear structure with introduction, body, and conclusion
- Well-written, concise, and free of major grammar errors
- Engaging and sincere tone

Excellent: Polished, engaging, and easy to follow

Adequate: Understandable but needs refinement

Weak: Poor organization or frequent errors

Length & Format Requirements

- **Length:** 500–750 words (or as specified by the scholarship)

- **Original Work:** Must be the applicant's own writing. Use of AI to write the essay will disqualify the applicant.

Friends of Troop 145 consists of the following contributors:

John Cistaro - Chairperson

Ed Merola

Sharon Prusakowski