



*U.S. Employees Credit Union*

*Olga Claesson*

*2018 Scholarship Application*

## About Our Scholarship

The USECU Olga Claesson Scholarship was established in 2013 to assist our members in furthering their education. This scholarship is named for Olga Claesson who served as a Member and Secretary of the USECU Board of Directors. Olga volunteered her time and effort to our credit union for over 30 years and was instrumental in our success. During her tenure, USECU grew from a “Ma & Pa” operation, literally run out of a shoebox, to the \$84 million full service financial institution we are today. Like Olga, we believe strongly in giving back to our members and the communities we serve.

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### Who is Eligible?

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You are eligible to apply if you are a primary member on a USECU account. **Being listed as a joint owner or authorized user of a USECU account is not sufficient.** If you are not a member, open a NextGen account and become eligible to apply. Your accounts (checking, savings, etc.) must be in good standing with no delinquencies or charged off loans.

You must be a graduating high school senior who will enroll in an undergraduate course of study during the 2018-2019 school year at an accredited two or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school in the U.S. You also must be a U.S. Citizen and must have at least a 2.50 cumulative GPA. (Copies of transcripts and ACT/SAT scores required)

USECU employees, board members, and their families are not eligible to apply.

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### How are Recipients Selected?

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Scholarships are awarded to members who demonstrate academic excellence, citizenship, and community and school involvement. Only complete applications will be considered. All requested information must be received by April 17, 2018.

Scholarship winners will be notified by phone in May 2018. Decisions regarding scholarship winners are final. Proceeds will be made payable to the school of choice upon submission of verified registration. Winners agree to be photographed by USECU and submit a photograph, which will be used for promotional purposes.

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### How Much are the Awards?

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USECU will award two \$1,000 and two \$500 Scholarships. Awards are distributed to the schools financial aid office. Scholarship funds may be applied to any component of the school’s comprehensive fee.

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### How to Apply

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Mail the completed application, essay, high school transcripts, ACT or SAT scores, and three letters of recommendation by April 17, 2018 to:

U.S. Employees Credit Union  
Scholarship Committee  
230 S. Dearborn, Suite 2962  
Chicago, IL 60604

Attach additional pages needed to your completed application. Best of luck to you!

# Student Application

## Applicant Information

Please print. Only completed applications will be considered.

USECU Member Number \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/Guardian

USECU Member Number \_\_\_\_\_ (If applicable)

Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Education Information

Your high school transcript and ACT or SAT score must be submitted.

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

ACT or SAT score \_\_\_\_\_

Name of accredited school you will attend: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

2 Year Community/Junior College     
  4 Year College/University     
  Vocational/Technical School

### Activities Information

List all activities (school and community) in which you have participated, listing any awards or honors received. Attach a separate sheet if necessary.

Name and Description of Activity	Awards/Honors Received	Years Participated	Faculty Advisor

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## Essay

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Please attach a written essay that includes the following:

- 1) What is your definition of financial health/freedom and how do you plan to achieve it?
- 2) Describe your most meaningful achievements and how or if they relate to your field of study.
- 3) If you were a mentor, describe the most important thing you would share with your mentee about life.

Essay should be a 12 pt. typed, double spaced, original essay of no more than 1,500 words. Essay will be judged based on clarity, completeness of details, and overall concept.

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## Recommendations

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Your application must include three written references from persons not related to you. We prefer that one be a teacher or counselor at your school. The form included with this application may be copied and given to those writing a reference on your behalf. Please list your three references and their occupation/relationship to you.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

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## Checklist

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This application becomes complete only after you have submitted:

- USECU "Primary Member" Number    Application    Essay    High School Transcripts    ACT/SAT Score  
 3 Letters of Recommendation (May be sent to scholarship committee under separate cover.)

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## Signature

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I certify this information is true, complete and accurate. I authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## USECU Olga Claesson Scholarship

You have been asked to submit a letter of reference on behalf of this applicant for the U.S. Employees Credit Union Olga Claesson Scholarship. Please use this form as a guide when writing your letter of reference or you may simply answer the questions. The letter of recommendation must be returned or postmarked by April 17, 2018. Please email to [npadin@usemployees.org](mailto:npadin@usemployees.org), fax to 312-957-7832, or mail to:

U.S. Employees Credit Union  
Scholarship Committee  
230 S. Dearborn, Suite 2962  
Chicago, IL 60604

Name of Scholarship applicant:

How do you know applicant?

Comment on the applicant's personal character:

Comment on the applicant's scholastic performance:

What characteristics do you consider his/her greatest attributes?

How would you rate the applicant's potential for future personal achievement? Why?

Any additional comments:

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_