

2026 AbbVie CF Scholarship Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for the scholarship?

Apply online at www.AbbVieCFScholarship.com. Applications must be submitted between 11:00 AM (ET) on March 26 through 11:00 AM (ET) on May 7, 2026. If you would prefer to submit your application in hard copy, please [click here](#) to download the printed version of the application. Alternatively, you may send your request for a printed application to the following address:

Ruder Finn
ATTN: 2026 AbbVie CF Scholarship
425 E 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022

What is the postmark deadline if I complete and mail a printed application?

A completed printed application must be mailed and postmarked on or before the scholarship application deadline on May 7, 2026. Applications postmarked after the deadline will be ineligible. **Applications must be received within five business days following the close of the application period.** Only one application per student will be accepted.

How many times can I apply for a scholarship?

All prior recipients of the larger scholarship amount (the Thriving Student Scholarship) are ineligible to apply. However, all prior AbbVie CF Scholars can apply for a chance to become a 2026 Thriving Student Scholarship recipient. There is no limit on the number of times an individual may receive an AbbVie CF Scholarship as long as he/she is pursuing higher education.

What are the criteria for applying for the scholarship?

This program is designed for students with CF pursuing an undergraduate degree (Associate's/2-year college, Bachelor's/4-year college, trade/vocational school) or graduate degree (Master's, M.D., J.D., doctorate) during the 2026-2027 academic year. Applicants must have completed high school or obtained a General Educational Development (GED) certification on or before June 2026. It is not necessary for applicants to have taken, currently take, or intend to take in the future, any medicine or product marketed by AbbVie, and this will not be a consideration in the recipient selection criteria.

Employees of AbbVie and their immediate family members are not eligible. Healthcare providers and their immediate family members are not eligible to apply.

Please see full Eligibility Requirements in the 2026 Application.

Do I need to be a full-time student to apply?

No, both full-time and part-time students may apply, as long as they meet the criteria stated above and outlined in the 2026 Application.

In order to apply, is it required that I take a product marketed by AbbVie?

No, it is not necessary for applicants to have taken, currently take, or intend to take in the future, any medicine or product marketed by AbbVie, and this will not be a consideration in the recipient selection criteria.

What can the AbbVie CF Scholarship funds be used for?

Scholarship funds will be awarded solely for use toward qualified educational expenses, which are expenses that are billable through the students school. Funds may be distributed over multiple succeeding years, as needed. Funds may be considered non-taxable under applicable federal tax laws. Please direct all questions about tax preparation to your tax advisor.

What is an example of a qualified educational expense?

A qualified educational expense is anything billable through the applicant's student account (tuition, fees, books, etc.).

Can the applications include brand or product names in the submissions (creative or essay)?

No. Applicants should not include any specific brand and/or product names including generic names of medications in their submissions.

Can I use images, music, or other works in the public domain in my creative submission (i.e., in a video)?

Use of images, music, and other works in the public domain may be included in your submission; however, use of copyrighted music or images or other works is not permitted without permission of the copyright owner. All written permission must be retained and included in your application. **Use of unauthorized music or images in your submission will result in the disqualification of your application.**

Can I use music in my creative submission and do I need permission from the artist(s)?

Any original music compositions written by you may be submitted; however copyrighted music cannot be used without the permission of the copyright owner. You may contact the artist or artist's representative (which may be a record company) to get written permission to use copyrighted material. All written permission must be retained and included in your application. **Use of unauthorized music or images in your submission will result in the disqualification of your application.**

Isn't it true that music that is very old is in the public domain?

Many pieces of older music are considered to be in the public domain, but the performance or recording itself may be protected. You are responsible for ensuring that you are not infringing upon any copyright, which could result in the disqualification of your application. If you are not certain if a piece of music you want to use is copyrighted, you may want to err on the side of caution and not use the music or check with the current or former copyright owner.

In what format should the essay be submitted for the online application?

The essay should be uploaded as a Microsoft Word document and not exceed 500 words. Please do not include any specific brand and/or product names including generic names of medications in your essay. **Essays exceeding the 500-word limit will not be considered.**

How much will I receive if I am chosen as an AbbVie CF Scholar? What's the difference between the 2026 Thriving Undergraduate Student and Thriving Graduate Student?

A total of 40 scholars will be chosen initially by AbbVie to receive scholarships in the amount of \$3,000. Additionally, two Thriving Student Scholarships will be awarded an additional \$22,000: Thriving Undergraduate Student Scholarship (*for students who will be enrolled in an undergraduate program in the 2026-2027 school year*) and Thriving Graduate Student Scholarship (*for students who will be enrolled in a graduate program in the 2026-2027 school year*).

All 40 scholars will have their submitted essays, accomplishments and creative presentations posted online at www.AbbVieCFScholarship.com. From August 27 to September 10, the public will have an opportunity to vote for one Thriving Undergraduate Student and one Thriving Graduate Student who inspires them most based on their creative presentation, academic achievements, community involvement and ability to serve as positive role models for others.

The overall Thriving Undergraduate and Thriving Graduate Student will be determined by the number of valid votes cast by the public (weighted 30 percent) and the cumulative points awarded to each scholarship recipient by the AbbVie-selected judging panel (weighted 70 percent).

The two Thriving Student Scholarship recipients will each be awarded a total of \$25,000 (the original \$3,000 AbbVie CF Scholarship plus an additional \$22,000 scholarship).

If I am enrolled in an Associate's degree program and am initially chosen to receive a scholarship, what Thriving Student Scholarship recipient category would I be considered for?

Scholars enrolled in an Associate's program will be considered for the Thriving Undergraduate Student award.

Who chooses the 40 AbbVie CF Scholars that receive \$3,000 each?

All eligible submissions will be evaluated based on academic record and extracurricular activities.

The top 60 submissions will be evaluated based on academic record, extracurricular activities, creative presentation and essay to determine the top 40 scholars. Submissions will be judged and ranked using a point system based on the following criteria:

- Academic record and extracurricular activities (assigned a score up to 30 points)
- Essay (assigned a score up to 20 points)
- Creative presentation (assigned a score up to 20 points)

Forty scholars will be determined by the highest cumulative points awarded by the judges. In the case of a tie, submissions will be evaluated according to the original criteria by a new judge selected by AbbVie who was not involved in the initial scoring process. The submission with the highest cumulative score by the new judge will be declared an AbbVie CF Scholar.

When will the 40 AbbVie CF Scholars be notified?

Scholars will be notified on, or around, June 22 if they have been chosen to receive a \$3,000 scholarship, using the contact information provided in this application.

Who chooses the Thriving Student Scholarship recipients?

The overall Thriving Undergraduate and Thriving Graduate Student will be determined by the number of valid votes cast by the public (weighted 30 percent) and the cumulative points awarded to each scholarship recipient by the judging panel (weighted 70 percent). **All decisions made by the judging panel are final. Under no circumstances will the judges' scores or tallied votes be disclosed to the public.**

When will the Thriving Student Scholarship recipients be notified?

Both the Thriving Undergraduate Student and Thriving Graduate Student will be notified of the results following the closing of the voting period, no later than September 18. There will be a formal public announcement of the winners on October 8.

2026 Voting Questions

How can I participate in the 2026 voting?

Once the voting period has opened, you can place a vote for **one** Thriving Undergraduate Student and **one** Thriving Graduate Student by voting:

- Online at www.AbbVieCFScholarship.com
- By text message at the SMS code on the website

How can I participate in online voting?

To vote online, visit www.AbbVieCFScholarship.com and register by providing your first name, last name and a valid email address. To place a vote, click the “CLICK HERE TO VOTE” icon linked to a specific recipient profile in the Thriving Undergraduate Student and Thriving Graduate Student categories.

Please note that you can vote for your chosen applicant online one time in each category for the duration of the campaign. **This means one email address equals one vote for the Thriving Undergraduate Student and one vote for the Thriving Graduate Student.**

All duplicate votes cast by an existing registered user will be considered invalid.

How can I participate in the text message voting?

Text to Vote: Each of the scholars will be assigned his or her unique ID (VOTE1, VOTE2, etc.) to be text messaged to the SMS code on the website. Please note that voting permits one text message per mobile device or the Thriving Undergraduate Student and the Thriving Graduate Student categories. More than one text vote in each category from the same phone number will be considered invalid. Standard text messaging fees will apply.

Are AbbVie CF Scholars allowed to vote for themselves? May friends and family members vote?

Any member of the general public – including AbbVie CF Scholars, their friends and family members – is allowed to vote for **one** Thriving Undergraduate Student and **one** Thriving Graduate Student.

How long will the voting period be for the Thriving Undergraduate Student and Thriving Graduate Student?

Voting opens to the public at 11:00 AM (ET) on August 27 and closes at 11:00 AM (ET) on September 10.

Is there a limit on the number of times one individual can vote?

Yes. Voting permits one email per registered unique email address and one text vote per phone number for the Thriving Undergraduate Student and the Thriving Graduate Student.

Will the general public be able to see the number of votes each winner receives during the process?

No. To protect the privacy of the winners listed on the site, the total number of votes received by each winner will not be publicly disclosed at any point.

If I have questions that aren't addressed on this list, whom may I contact?

For more information about the terms and conditions of the Thriving Undergraduate Student/Thriving Graduate Student contest, click here www.AbbVieCFScholarship.com. If you have any further questions regarding the voting process, you may contact the program's administrator at info@AbbVieCFScholarship.com.