

# Belong! Scholarship Fund 2021



## Description:

The Belong! Scholarship Fund has been established to help economically disadvantaged students imagine a future that includes further education after high school. These scholarships offer up to \$5,000 per student for one year of post-secondary tuition assistance towards an **Associate Degree at Northern Virginia Community College or a Certificate Program as part of a trade or technical school**. These scholarships are renewable, and only available for students that have just graduated or graduated within the past 3 years from James Madison High School (“JMHS”) provided they meet the eligibility requirements listed below.

## Amount:

Up to \$2,500 per semester (up to \$5,000 per school year). Note that the amount awarded will depend on whether the student is enrolled on a part-time or full-time basis. The scholarships will be awarded each year. Successful completion of the awarded scholarship year will allow students to re-apply for potential scholarship funds in subsequent years.

## Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ Maintained a GPA of at least a 2.5 while at JMHS.
- ✓ Current Senior **or** former student of JMHS (Graduated within the past 3 years from JMHS).
- ✓ Plan to enroll part time or full-time at Northern Virginia Community College **or** an accredited trade or technical school for the 2021-2022 academic year.
- ✓ Is not in default, or does not owe a refund, under any federal or state loan or grant program.
- ✓ Agrees to meet with a Belong! Scholarship advisor at least twice per year.
- ✓ Demonstrated financial need through submission of a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) **or**
- ✓ **IF** ineligible to complete the FAFSA, you must submit EFC Calculator Results: Go to [bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org) and under “Pay for College”, click on “Tools and Calculators”, then click the “EFC Calculator” link. Use the “Federal Methodology” (FM) EFC Formula when prompted. Print the EFC “Results” page.

## Additional Information/Continuing Eligibility:

- ✓ If Belong! determines that a student is not eligible to receive the scholarship after they have been notified of the initial scholarship award, then Belong! shall notify the student of its determination in writing.
- ✓ Certification of initial and continuing eligibility for scholarship recipients: Recipients must meet all initial and continuing eligibility requirements as stated previously. In addition, students shall provide Belong! unofficial copies of their transcript within fourteen (14) days of notification from Belong!.
- ✓ Maintains at least a 2.5 GPA per semester.
- ✓ Maintains part-time or full-time enrollment at Northern Virginia Community College or an accredited trade or technical school.
- ✓ Registers only for courses that satisfy the degree or program completion course requirements.

# Belong Scholarship Application

Applicant Information:

Name:

<i>First Name</i>	<i>Middle Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>

Address:

<i>Street</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>

Cell Phone Number:

Email Address:

Select One:

JMHS Student

JMHS Former Student and Graduation Year

*If you need more space to answer the questions below, answer on a separate paper and attach to application. Please make sure all documents have your name on them.*

**Current Plan: What is your current education plan, now and in the next 2-3 year?**

**Future Career Goal: What is your future career goal?**

**List your top 5 activities outside of school (jobs, sports, volunteering, clubs, etc.) and include any leadership roles you might have had.**

**Essay: Tell the Belong! Scholarship Committee about yourself and why you should be selected to receive this scholarship (your background, obstacles you've overcome, etc.).**

*\* Essay should be double spaced and no more than two pages in length.*

**Application Requirements:**

- Complete Application
- Essay
- Copy of Submitted FAFSA/Student Aid Report (SAR) or EFC Calculator Report
- Official or Unofficial School Transcript

**Deadline: May 17, 2021**

**Application and all supporting documents should be emailed to [scholarships@belongvienna.org](mailto:scholarships@belongvienna.org) or put in Ms. Otto's mailbox in the main office.**

**For Applicant**

- ✓ I have reviewed the requirements for The Belong! Scholarships and I agree to follow the criteria of this scholarship program.
- ✓ Should I be a recipient of a Belong! Scholarship, I give permission for Belong! to publish pictures and information about me for Belong!'s media or promotional purposes.

**Student Signature:**

**Date:**

**Please Print Name:**

**Parent/Guardian Signature:**

**Date:**

**Please Print Name:**