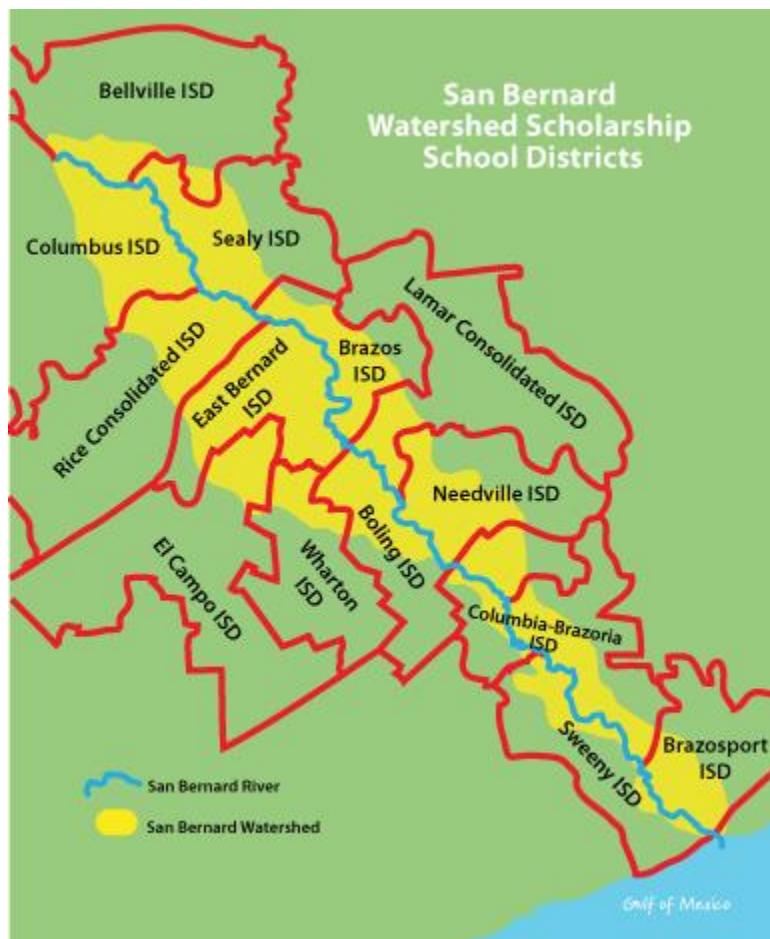


2025-2026 San Bernard Watershed Scholarship Program

Friends Of the River (FOR) San Bernard is a 501(c)(3) organization consisting of volunteers who are passionate about preserving, protecting and promoting the San Bernard River for future generations. FOR programs include youth education where the FOR Rangers deliver a watershed environmental program to fifth graders, land conservation easements, Clean Team's river clean up and Adopt-A-Highway, public speaking, as well as the 4th of July and lighted Christmas boat parades.

Seniors — it is your generation to whom the future health and well-being of the San Bernard River watershed will be entrusted. FOR will provide **\$2000 scholarships (\$1000 for 1st Semester and \$1000 for 2nd Semester)** toward actual college tuition and book expenses in the freshman year to selected individuals based on the following program guidelines. Applications must be received by **April 1** and will be evaluated and winners selected by a Scholarship Committee.



Program Guidelines:

1. Applicants must reside or have a primary residence in, or attend a high school with an attendance zone in the San Bernard Watershed. The 14 eligible high school zones include Bellville HS, Boling HS, Brazos HS, Brazosport HS, Columbia HS, Columbus HS, East Bernard HS, El Campo HS, Lamar Consolidated HS, Needville HS, Rice HS, Sealy HS, Sweeny HS, and Wharton HS.

2. Applicants must demonstrate a reasonable connection between the career they intend to pursue and the betterment of the environment. Possible career paths might include, but are not limited to, environmental sciences, environmental law, agriculture, certain engineering disciplines, science education, scientific research, etc.
3. Applicants may only apply during their senior year and must graduate from high school at the conclusion of the school year during which the application is submitted.
4. Completed applications must be received by the committee between February 1st and April 1.
5. Each **completed** application will be evaluated based on the documents provided to the San Bernard Watershed Scholarship Committee. Only those applications meeting all program requirements will be considered.
6. The scholarship winners will be announced in early May each calendar year.
7. All decisions made by the San Bernard Watershed Scholarship Committee are final.
8. Winners shall be present at their school's awards ceremony.
9. Winner's picture and brief biography will be published on the FOR website and submitted to local newspapers.
10. It is the responsibility of each applicant to keep the Scholarship Committee apprised of any change of address and/or contact information. Failure to provide adequate information will disqualify an application.

Program Process:

Phase One (Due April 1):

- Complete the application following all instructions
- Submit a copy of your high school transcript
- Mail documents to:

Friends Of the River San Bernard
Attn: Scholarship Committee
PO Box 93
Brazoria, TX 77422
- Obtain letters of recommendation from officials of an environmental organization, environmental authority or environmental agency, or from a science teacher, counselor and/or principal (minimum of two letters required and none can be written by a relative.) Letters should be original and on the organization's letterhead, signed by the author, sealed by the author in an envelope, and submitted to the Scholarship Committee unopened to the mailing address above.

Phase Two:

- All applications meeting the program guidelines will be evaluated by the Scholarship Committee and a maximum of six winners will be selected.

Phase Three:

- Winners will be notified in early May and winners will be recognized by the committee at their high school awards ceremony and in the FOR website and local newspapers.

Administering the \$2000 Scholarships:

Scholarship funding will be administered by the Friends of the River San Bernard. The \$2000 scholarship consists of \$1000 for the 1st semester and \$1000 for the 2nd semester for the freshman year and will be distributed to each recipient upon submittal of proof of enrollment in an accredited college or university in the year the scholarship was awarded by the Scholarship Committee. Proof shall consist of receipts for tuition, books, or school fees. Deadlines for submitting proof of enrollment are Oct 15 for the 1st semester and Feb 15 for the second semester. Failure to provide this information will result in forfeiture of the scholarship. Any scholarship awards forfeited will remain in the Scholarship Fund of Friends of the River San Bernard and may be considered for distribution to alternate scholarship winners at the Scholarship Committee's discretion.

San Bernard Watershed Scholarship Application (Due April 1)

(Attach additional pages if necessary)

Applicant's Name	Applicant's Parents Name (complete if minor)
Address:	Address:
Phone #	Phone #
E-mail address:	E-mail address:

Applicant's current high school:
Planned high school graduation date:
College where you plan to enroll (name and location)
Planned college enrollment date:
Planned course of study or degree pursued:

1. Why did you choose your major and what do you hope to do short term and long term after you earn that degree? Describe how your chosen career path will have a positive impact on the environment?

2. Please describe your activities and achievements related to school with specific examples of what you did to achieve individual or team success and overcome barriers. Be sure to include any activities or achievements that resulted in a positive impact on the environment.

2. cont'd

3. Please describe your activities and achievements unrelated to school with specific examples of what you did to achieve individual or team success and overcome barriers. Be sure to include any activities or achievements that resulted in a positive impact on the environment.

- ✓ I acknowledge and understand that to be considered for the San Bernard Watershed Scholarship Program I must complete and submit all the required information within the time frame allotted by April 1.
- ✓ I also understand I must be present at the awards ceremony to accept any scholarship funding.
- ✓ It will be my responsibility to keep Friends of the River San Bernard apprised of any change of address and/or contact information. Failure to provide adequate information will disqualify my application.
- ✓ I have read and understand the program guidelines, requirements and funding process.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

Parental Authorization/Consent: I, _____, authorize the applicant of this scholarship to participate in all phases of the scholarship program. I further understand it is my responsibility as the applicant's parent to ensure their security and safety while performing and/or engaging in the scholarship process.

_____ **Parent's Signature** _____

_____ **Date** _____