

PURDY EMERGING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP

2026-2027

*a private scholarship for current Missouri college students
award of up to \$5,000 per academic year*



About Allan Purdy

Allan Walker Purdy was a visionary leader. Born in 1914 on a farm near Macon, Missouri, he was the first in his family to attend a four-year college. Mr. Purdy worked in the University of Missouri's College of Agriculture before becoming the campus's first director of scholarships and student financial aid. He was the founding president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and helped create the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA), spending 20 years on MOHELA's governing board. Mr. Purdy's leadership in the financial aid industry is unparalleled. He believed in using one's voice and knowledge to help students and families obtain higher education.

PROGRAM

The Purdy Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program, named in honor of Allan Walker Purdy, is designed to provide scholarships to emerging leaders who are outstanding students and who need additional funding for higher education. We are looking for leaders on Missouri college campuses and/or in the community! This scholarship supports candidates who demonstrate leadership, character and academic performance. This program is open to students who started higher education right after high school as well as adult learners who are now pursuing or returning to complete a degree. Additionally, these students have a vision, are eager to make their contribution to the world and have the work ethic to bring their dreams to fruition.

ELIGIBILITY

- Missouri resident.
- Must be an undergraduate second, third, or fourth year student for the 2026-2027 academic year.
- Enrolled full-time and making satisfactory academic progress.
- A cumulative college GPA of 2.50 or higher is required.
- Student's SAI range as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will factor into decision. Unmet need will also be a factor.
- Recommendation from an instructor, counselor, advisor, current or recent supervisor, community leader, or other similarly qualified individual is required.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- **Scholarship application open January 1-April 1, 2026 on My Scholarship Central.**
- Before you start, you will need a copy of your FAFSA Submission Summary generated from the FAFSA, your Financial Aid Award Letter / Offer from your school, and your most recent college transcript. If you are a returning adult student, this is the transcript from your most recent postsecondary institution.
- Go to myscholarshipcentral.org/apply and click "Apply Now".
- On the top right of the page, click "Sign In" if you already have a My Scholarship Central account, or "Sign Up" if you've never used the site.
- Enter your email and password. If you are a new user, you will receive a confirmation email and must click the link in the email to validate your account.
- Complete the General Application if you have not done so this year.
- After submitting the General Application, you should see the Purdy Emerging Leaders Scholarship on your list of Recommended Opportunities. If not, click "Opportunities" in the blue bar and choose "Ours." Search "Purdy".
- Click the orange "Apply" button next to the opportunity name. After completing the application, click "submit" at the bottom right of the page.
- Questions? Contact info@moslf.org or 636.733.3712.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Scholarships are available at the discretion of Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation (MSLF) in accordance with program rules and applicable law. All eligible scholarship applications will be considered, provided funding for this program is available.
- Program funding will be determined annually by MSLF. The Purdy Emerging Leaders Scholarship is renewable for up to a total of three years. If funding is available, eligible previous recipients will be invited to apply for renewal using a special application. A 2.50 or higher cumulative college GPA is required to renew.
- Applicants will be notified if a scholarship is awarded via My Scholarship Central. If awarded, MSLF will verify eligibility with the institution. The scholarship must be used to cover the Cost of Attendance as determined by the school.
- If this award is used for educational expenses that are not required for your academic program, such as housing, childcare, meals or transportation, your scholarship may be considered taxable income. You should consult your tax advisor about your specific situation.
- If awarded the scholarship, the amount may be reduced if your unmet need (i.e., your Cost of Attendance minus other scholarships and grants) is less than the scholarship.