



Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
701 Hebron Avenue, 3rd Floor ~ Glastonbury, CT 06033 ~ 860.430.4971
admin@conn-nahro.org ~ conn-nahro.org

2026 CONN NAHRO JOHN J. KELLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP For Graduating High School Seniors

CONN NAHRO invites graduating high school seniors in Connecticut to apply for one of the available **\$3,500 John J. Kelly Memorial Scholarships** for students continuing their education. Annually, three or more scholarships are awarded to students who live in CONN NAHRO member housing authority communities or Section 8 housing who may not be able to take advantage of higher education opportunities due in part to their economic circumstances.

The application process is administered by the CONN NAHRO Scholarship Committee. Recipients are recognized at the Scholarship Luncheon during the CONN NAHRO Annual Convention in August.

Eligibility

- 1) Individuals who have been accepted into a two-year or four-year institution of higher learning working toward an Associate's or Bachelor's degree or a full time Vocational/Certificate program beginning with the Fall term in 2026; and,
- 2) Who reside in, or are assisted with their housing by, a CONN NAHRO member housing authority or agency; and,
- 3) Are residents in good standing.

Criteria

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Candidates must be eligible for high school graduation in June 2026 or have already earned their high school diploma or GED in the 2025-2026 academic year.
- 2) Candidates must attain a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale during their four-year high school attendance or, under certain circumstances, a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale during their senior year.

Application

The Scholarship application must be complete and include the following items to be considered:

- 1) Completed John J. Kelly Memorial Scholarship Application Form
- 2) A written recommendation from the Executive Director/CEO or Designee from the applicant's CONN NAHRO member housing authority or community (must be a signed original document or electronic signature).
- 3) The applicant's High School transcript, including SAT or ACT scores if applicable.
- 4) Three (3) additional written letters of recommendation (must be a signed original document or electronic signature).
- 5) A 250 – 500-word essay on the subject: ***Tell us about a time when you had a belief or idea challenged?***
- 6) A list of the applicant's accomplishments, including awards, honors, sports, community service, extracurricular activities, employment, etc.
- 7) A copy of the acceptance letters received from the institutions to which the applicant was accepted.

- 8) Proof of Financial Aid and any other sources of financial assistance to be received by the applicant (*must be received by June 17, 2026*).

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria is based on a point system for each of the following elements:

30 points	Need
25 points	High school grades, class rank, and/or SAT/ACT scores
20 points	Essay content
20 points	Work experience, extracurricular activities, and community service.
5 points	3.0 Grade point average or higher
5 points	Not previously awarded a CONN NAHRO scholarship

Funding

Scholarship awards will be funded by September 1, 2026. CONN NAHRO reserves the right to revoke the scholarship and require repayment of the scholarship if the recipient does not attend the identified educational institution in the Fall of 2026.

Deadline to Apply

Applications must be completed and received by the CONN NAHRO Scholarship Chair no later than **5:00 p.m. (EDT) on Wednesday, June 17, 2026**. Your Housing Authority Executive Director/CEO will submit the completed application on your behalf.

Submit Application to:

CONN NAHRO 2026 John J. Kelly Memorial Scholarship
Attn: Michelle Molina
J. D'Amelia & Associates, LLC
37 Brookside Road
Waterbury CT 06708
mmolina@jdamelia.com
Fax: (203) 757-1467

Administrative Considerations:

The housing authority/agency Executive Director/CEO, or their Designee, is responsible for verifying all application requirements are included in the candidate's submission. The housing authority or agency is responsible for submitting the application, not the candidate. Each CONN NAHRO member housing authority/agency may submit up to ten (10) scholarship applications on behalf of their student residents.

Confidentiality

CONN NAHRO will maintain strict confidentiality of the information provided by the applicant and will only use this information in the selection process to determine scholarship award recipients. A form to authorize use of the recipient's name and photographic images is included in the application material.



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2026 CONN NAHRO JOHN J. KELLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Graduating High School Seniors Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Telephone (home and cell)

Email

Housing Authority/Agency

Housing Program Community

**High School Name and
 Graduation Date**

**Colleges/Institutions to which
 you have been accepted**

**College/Institution you plan to
 attend**

**Activities, Achievements,
 Honors**

On a separate page, please list your accomplishments including any awards, honors, sports, community service, extracurricular activities, employment, etc. and include with application

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

1) Number of persons in household	
2) Number of persons in household (except head of household and spouse) who are full-time college students	
3) Gross income of head of household and spouse (all sources including employment wages, unemployment benefits, interest, dividends, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, pensions, welfare benefits, earned income tax credit, additional child tax credit, child support, alimony, etc.	\$

4) Gross income of applicant (all sources as in #3 above)	\$
5) Total anticipated cost for school year beginning September 2026	\$
6) Have you applied for financial aid?	Yes No
7) Amount of scholarships applicant to receive	\$
8) Amount of loans applicant to receive	\$
9) Amount of other assistance to be received	\$

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please include all the following:

- 1) Completed Application
- 2) Executive Director/CEO written recommendation
- 3) Transcript of High School grades
- 4) SAT or ACT scores if applicable
- 5) Three (3) letters of recommendation
- 6) Essay on: *Tell us about a time when you had a belief or idea challenged?*
- 7) List of accomplishments, awards, honors, etc.
- 8) Copy of college/institution acceptance letters
- 9) Verification of financial aid (*no later than June 17, 2026*)
- 10) Signed photographic images authorization form

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I understand that CONN NAHRO can revoke the scholarship if it is revealed that false information was provided in this application and its attachments.

SIGNATURES

Applicant

Date

Housing Authority or Agency Executive Director/CEO

Date

SUBMISSION

Return your completed application and required materials to your Housing Authority or Agency Executive Director/CEO for submission to CONN NAHRO. All applications must be received in full by **5:00 p.m. (EDT) on June 17, 2026**, to be considered for the scholarship.

Submit to:

CONN NAHRO 2026 John J. Kelly Memorial Scholarship
 Attn: Michelle Molina
 J. D’Amelia & Associates, LLC
 37 Brookside Road
 Waterbury CT 06708
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AUTHORIZATION TO USE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES AND PERSONAL INFORMATION

I, _____, authorize the use of photographic images of me and information I provide in this application, such as name and school, in both print and electronic formats by representatives of CONN NAHRO. No personal contact or financial information will be shared. This authorization applies to, yet is not limited to, use in marketing materials, on the website and social media, and news releases related to the awarding of this scholarship.

CANDIDATE

Signature

Name (print)

Date

If under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must sign on behalf of the candidate.

Signature

Name (print)

Date

Relationship to Candidate

CONFIDENTIALITY

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