Couch Oil Cares Scholarship Program
2026 Application
Celebrating Our 12th Year!

Submission Deadline: Friday, May 1, 2026
Scholarship Presentation: Saturday, July 18, 2026 (Durham Bulls Athletic Park)
****To receive the scholarship, recipients must attend this presentation.****

Name (Last, First): _____Preferred First Name:_____

Address: _____County of Residence: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____ Email: _____

Phone #: (___)_____ Alternate Phone #: (____)_____

Date of Birth: _____ Year of High School Graduation: _____

Name of High School: _____ Weighted GPA (9-12): _____

Intended College/Community College: _____

Intended Major: _____ Intended Minor (if applicable): _____

How did you hear about this scholarship? _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:

Name(s): _____ _____

Phone(s): _____ _____

Email(s): _____ _____

By signing this application, you grant Couch Oil Cares, Inc. and the Durham Bulls Baseball Club permission to use your image in print and/or digital media. You also understand that, to receive this scholarship, you are required to attend the July 18, 2026 scholarship presentation. In addition, you may be asked to participate in future endeavors and promotions for Couch Oil Cares, Inc.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ **DATE:** _____

A. Selection Committee: Representatives from Couch Oil Company, the Durham Bulls Baseball Club, former scholarship recipients and other community leaders shall serve on the Couch Oil Cares Scholarship Selection Committee.

B. Application: Applications for the Couch Oil Cares Scholarship are available online at couchoilcares.org/scholarship or Durham Bulls/Couch Oil Cares Scholarship and Couch Oil Cares social media pages. Hard copies are available upon request. Questions concerning application submission should be emailed to scholarships@couchoilcares.org.

C. Eligibility: Applications for the scholarship shall be accepted from

- Residents of **Alamance, Caswell, Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Nash, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake, and Wilson** counties in North Carolina.
- Those who have been accepted to and registered as **first-year college students for the 2026-2027 school year** (two- or four-year college).
- Those who are **no more than twenty-five (25) years of age** at the time of the scholarship presentation.

D. Scholarships Granted: Couch Oil Cares, Inc. will award six (6) scholarships of $2,000 each for one year only. Scholarships will be paid directly to the school in one installment after proof of acceptance and registration is received.

E. Scholarship Presentation: All recipients must attend the scholarship presentation on Saturday, July 18, 2026. Recipients and three (3) guests will receive tickets to the Durham Bulls game and dinner.

F. Required Documents: To be eligible for the Couch Oil Cares Scholarship, an applicant must submit the following to the Selection Committee by **Friday, May 1, 2026 (pdfs are preferred; * items are required)**:

1. **This application (including 3 essay questions)***
2. **A resume of significant honors, achievements, and extracurricular activities in grades 9-12, including leadership experience***
3. **One letter of recommendation from a high school teacher/counselor/advisor (Those who completed high school before 2026 must submit one recommendation from an employer or community leader.)***
4. **Other supporting documents or letters that may enhance the application**
5. **An official high school transcript for grades 9-12***
6. **A letter of acceptance from the student's intended college/community college***

G: Selection and Notification: Selection of recipients will take place in late June 2026 with notification to follow by phone. (Finalists may be asked to participate in an interview with the Scholarship Selection Committee.) **Applicants who are not selected will be notified by email.**

H: DEADLINE: Completed applications (and supporting documents) must be submitted online or emailed no later than 11:59 pm on Friday, May 1, 2026.

EMAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO
scholarships@couchoilcares.org

OR

SUBMIT THE ONLINE APPLICATION (couchoilcares.org/scholarship)

ESSAY QUESTIONS - All Are Required

On a separate sheet, answer the THREE questions below.
- Limit of 500 words each -
Submit your responses as email attachments (pdfs only).
NOTE: Essays are meant to showcase your own thoughts, ideas and experiences. The use of AI-generated content without personal input may result in disqualification.

Essay #1 Answer the three questions below:

a) Where do you see yourself in seven years?
b) How will this scholarship help you to achieve this personal goal?
c) What makes you a good candidate for this scholarship?

Essay #2 Share some personal information about yourself. You may include, but are not limited to, the following:

a) A life event that has shaped you as a person
b) One example of community service involvement
c) Your biggest weakness and steps you've taken to overcome it
d) Something learned from someone who is very different from you

Essay #3 List any financial aid, scholarships or grants that will support your college education.

THANK YOU FOR APPLYING FOR THE COUCH OIL CARES SCHOLARSHIP!