

YFVA Kevin Ford Memorial Scholarship 2026



KEVIN FORD MEMORIAL MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED FOR 2026

The Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association -YFVA is offering scholarship assistance to qualified members, member employees or dependents of Association members in good standing. Funds for these programs may be used at any accredited Arizona-based college, university, or institution of higher learning.

An application for the program accompanies this cover sheet. The deadline for applying is April 6, 2026. Funds will be awarded and made available by July 1, 2026, pending enrollment verification.

DEPENDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Member-Member Employee-Dependent Scholarships will provide:

- Up to a maximum of \$2,500 of financial aid to help defray education expenses per application year, on a one-time basis.
- Mentoring by Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association membership to provide guidance and encouragement during the education experience.

Recipient(s) will be selected in April by a committee of Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association Scholarship Committee Members. The program is intended for applicants who will be continuing students during the 2026-2027 school year or new students in the 2026-2027 school year at accredited programs in Arizona. The scholarship will be awarded for the published application year; however, recipients are eligible to reapply each year.

Members and Employees of Member Companies are eligible to apply. Dependents include spouses, domestic partners, children (adopted, foster, in-law, and step), and grandchildren (adopted, foster, in-law, and step) of current Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association members who are in good standing. Eligibility will be verified.

All degree and certificate programs will be considered, but preference will be given to students enrolled in degree programs related to the Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association interests. Funds will be mailed in the form of a check directly to the recipient. Any associated tax liabilities are the responsibility of the recipient.

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HOW TO APPLY:

Candidates for scholarship must submit the following documents as a single application packet:

1. A completed YFVA *Member-Member Employee-Dependent Scholarship Application*.
2. A one-page letter addressed to the YFVA Scholarship Committee explaining career goals, reasons for selecting the field of study and how it relates to YFVA, and why the student believes they should be selected.
3. A current resume, including school(s) attended, employment, community and volunteer activities, school clubs/sports and awards received.
4. Current school transcripts.
5. Two letters of recommendation are preferred. A minimum of one letter of recommendation is mandatory. A letter of recommendation may be from a person familiar with the student's character or work ethic and cannot be related to the student. If from a school, it must be on school letterhead from an instructor or counselor familiar with the student's academic abilities. Additional letters of recommendation are welcome but not required. Letters should explore academic achievements, contributions to school or community, and assessment of the applicant's character and initiative.

The application should be emailed to amy@yumafreshveg.com or mailed to:

Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association
P.O. Box 1647
Yuma, AZ 85366

WHAT WILL THE COMMITTEE CONSIDER:

The committee will consider the quality of the application (spelling, construction, grammar, etc.) and substance of the application, including the following:

- Community service involvement
- Work history
- School major
- Letters of recommendation
- Academic achievement

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY: All application packets must be received by YFVA with a **post-marked date of no later than April 6, 2026**, to be considered for scholarship assistance this calendar year. If you miss the deadline, your application will not be reviewed, and you will not be awarded a scholarship this year. If you wish to apply next year, you will need to submit a new application.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For more information, clarifications, or other concerns, please email or phone:

amy@yumafreshveg.com | 928.783-9355

Candidate's Name: _____

Relationship to Member: _____

YFVA Company/Member's Name: _____

YFVA Company/Member's Phone Number: _____

Status (Please Circle at least one):

Graduating High School Senior * Continuing Education * Graduate Student

Current Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Email Address: _____

High School GPA: _____

School to attend: _____

Program Pursuing: _____

Hours Completed (if applicable): _____ **Current GPA (if applicable):** _____

Previous Academic History and Dates Attended: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Is there any additional information you would like to share: _____

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all information given herewith is true and accurate. I understand that schools and my former employers may be contacted for reference purposes and to confirm information provided as a part of this application and that any misrepresentation of material facts may be cause for rejection of this application or termination from the program if I am selected. I authorize the release of information by the school(s) to the YFVA Scholarship Selection Committee and/or its administrator regarding my academic progress.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____