



The Volunteer Center of South Jersey's **Scholarship Award for Volunteer Excellence (SAVE) Program** provides a \$500 scholarship to seniors attending a high school in New Jersey. This scholarship is available to high school seniors who plan to attend an accredited college, university, technical or trade school in the semester following their anticipated spring/summer graduation of the same year. Children of Jersey Cares staff and volunteers are eligible to apply and should contact The Volunteer Center office at 856-415-9084 for more information.

### **Program Guidelines & Priorities:**

Seeking graduating seniors with a record of volunteerism in the community at nonprofit organization and/or school sponsored activities and participation in extracurricular school activities/clubs.

Scholarship funds are paid **by the due date for the first semester of the student's first year directly to the college, university, technical or trade school** and not to the student. It will be the student's responsibility to submit to VCSJ at that time an invoice for semester tuition and fees, student ID number and college information.

Student **MUST** provide:

- **250 to 500 Word Essay – IMPORTANT NOTE:** Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs as the primary method for generating an essay is strongly discouraged. All essays will be screened by one or more programs and each judge on the review panel will have discretion in scoring an essay based on AI usage.

Answering the following questions:

- What do community service and volunteerism mean to you?
- How has volunteer or community service shaped who you are today and what has it taught you?
- How will you apply what you have learned as you move forward after high school?
- **Copy of High School Transcripts**, confirming GPA of 3.0 or above.
- **Letter of Recommendation** preferably from an executive director, volunteer manager of a nonprofit, school club advisor or other individual familiar with the applicant's service and character. Additional letters of recommendation (guidance counselors, employers, etc.) are accepted if the applicant chooses.

Online application deadline is **April 1st at 4:00 p.m.** to be received by The Volunteer Center. Late applications are not accepted. Applications will be reviewed and recipients selected by a committee consisting of Board Members and volunteers from the Volunteer Center of South Jersey, A Program of Jersey Cares. The scholarships will be awarded in May/June.

Online application can be found at the Volunteer Center of South Jersey's website at [sjvolunteers.org/scholarship](http://sjvolunteers.org/scholarship).