

RE: Wilma M. Anderson Memorial Scholarship

May 5, 2026

Class of 2026 Graduate:

In recognition of the unselfish dedication of Mrs. Wilma Anderson, a 34-year member of the Berlin Volunteer Fire Co., Inc. Rescue Squad, it is with great honor that the Berlin Volunteer Fire Co., Inc. offers a scholarship award to a Town of Berlin resident and Graduating Senior of the Class of 2026.

We will be supporting the selected recipient for four years.

**AWARD AMOUNT - \$750 EACH YEAR FOR UP TO FOUR YEARS - MAXIMUM AWARD OF \$3,000.**

The award is structured to pay four disbursements directly to an institute of higher education. Should the recipient choose to take a one-year leave of absence from their studies, this award will remain earmarked for the student in the scholarship fund for an additional year. After five years, the award will become void and any remaining amount returned to the scholarship fund.

The selection process for the recipient of this award is reserved for the scholarship committee of the Berlin Volunteer Rescue Squad. The scholarship recipient will be announced during the graduation ceremony.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE – CLOSE OF SCHOOL ON June 2, 2026.** Please mail your application to **Berlin Fire District, PO Box 269, Berlin, NY 12022 Atten: scholarship committee**

Selection Criteria:

1. Resident of the Town of Berlin
2. Applicants career selection/goal is one of the following (**please circle**):
  - a. Health with an emphasis on Nursing Medicine
  - b. Medicine
  - c. Emergency Services Management
  - d. Education or Human Services
3. Copy of the applicants school transcript (an email copy is acceptable)
4. Letter of recommendation from a teacher or administrator of the Berlin Central School (an email copy is acceptable)
5. Essay: A neatly written essay (between 1 and 2 pages) on the following topic:

"How might my future education affect volunteer services in the community where I will live?"

6. Attach this letter as the cover page of your application package.

Additional applications are available at the Berlin High School Guidance Office or Berlin Fire House.

Sincerely,

Corporate President

Joseph

Sweener

### **Wilma M. Anderson Memorial Scholarship**

#### **Sponsored by the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department**

As part of the process of applying for the Wilma M. Anderson Scholarship, you acknowledge that you have applied for other available funding, including any available Federal or State Student loans, aid, or grants. Below is information about seeking aid through FAFSA and TAP

**FAFSA:** To get a federal student loan, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The easiest way to complete the FAFSA is online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). You can identify schools that you are interested in attending and when your FAFSA is processed, the schools you have identified will receive your information. The school will then tell you how much financial aid is available, including grants, scholarships, work opportunities and federal student loans. Should you choose a federal student loan, your school will provide you with instructions on next steps.

The **New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)**: helps eligible New York residents pay tuition at approved schools in New York State. Depending on the academic year in which you begin study, an annual TAP award can be up to \$5,000. Because TAP is a grant, it does not have to be paid back.

Effective for the 2007-08 academic year and thereafter, TAP is available for students attending SUNY, CUNY and not-for-profit independent degree-granting colleges on a part-time basis. To be eligible for part time TAP you must have been a first-time freshman in the 2006-07 academic year or thereafter, have earned 12 credits or more in each of two consecutive semesters, and maintain a "C" average.

To be eligible for TAP, you must be a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen; be a legal resident of New York State; study at an approved postsecondary institution in New York State (NYS); have graduated from high school in the United States, earned a GED, or passed a federally approved "Ability to Benefit" test as defined by the Commissioner of the State Education Department; be enrolled as a full-time student taking 12 or more credits (applicable toward your degree program) per semester; be matriculated in an approved program of study and be in good academic standing; have declared a major no later than within 30 days from end of the add/drop period: in the first term of your sophomore year in an approved two-year program; or in the first term of your junior year in an approved four-year program; meet good academic standing requirements; be charged with at least \$200 tuition per year; not be in default on any State or federal

student loan or on any repayment of state awards; meet income eligibility limitations.

I acknowledge that I, or my minor child, am/is aware of these programs and have/has applied for eligible aid as provided. I agree to cooperate in any audit or investigation related thereto.

Date:

Parent Signature