

2023 Application Ceili Leahy Service Scholarship

This scholarship honors the legacy of Ceili Anne Leahy, a member of the James Monroe High School (JM) Class of 2014.

Each year at graduation a \$2,500 scholarship is awarded to a JM senior who embodies Ceili's spirit of service. Ceili fought cancer with grace throughout her senior year at JM. After she graduated, she attended the University of Virginia. Ceili died in January 2016 from complications of her cancer treatment.

Deadline: Monday, April 10, 2023– By 3:00 PM to the James Monroe High School Counseling Center, 2300 Washington Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401.

Ceili's Attributes

Ceili was an excellent student with a strong commitment to public service. She cared deeply about people, human rights, justice, and the environment. Ceili worked tirelessly to improve the human condition and the natural world. She was a great friend who had the ability to bring out the best in those around her, helping others to see the inherent goodness in themselves. She led through the passion she showed for her beliefs. She was creative, particularly in writing, and loved to laugh, travel, and learn about other cultures.

At JM, Ceili was president of the Amnesty International and French clubs. At UVa, she was active with Habitat for Humanity, the Community Garden, and the Outdoors Club. She planned to serve in the Peace Corps and then pursue a career in global sustainability and writing.

Scholarship Eligibility Criteria

All JM (Fredericksburg, VA) seniors with at least a 2.0 grade point average are eligible to apply.

Selection Criteria

This Scholarship is awarded to a student who has made significant contributions through service to their school and/or local community by demonstrating several of Ceili's attributes (see above).

Additional consideration will be given to applicants who plan to pursue education and a career dedicated to public service, particularly in an area important to Ceili such as the environment, sustainability, human rights, global development, or realization of peace and justice.

Applicants may be interviewed as part of the selection process.

Scholarship Use Requirements

- Funds may be used only for qualified educational expenses (tuition, books and fees, required supplies and equipment).
- The awardee must study at an *educational institution* that:
 - o Has a primary function of presenting formal education,
 - o Maintains a regular faculty and curriculum, and
 - o Normally has a regularly enrolled body of students in attendance at the place where it conducts its educational activities. This could be a college, university, trade, technical, vocational, or other school that is nationally accredited and authorized by law to offer its program.
- Payment of Award:
 - o Scholarship funds may be paid directly to the educational institution if the school agrees in writing to use the funds to defray the student's expenses. **OR**
 - o Funds may be paid directly to the awardee if the student agrees in writing to submit at the end of each academic term during which Scholarship funds are used a transcript of courses taken and grades received.

If you are awarded the Scholarship, please keep in mind the Scholarship use requirements described above. Funds for the scholarship are provided by the Ceili Leahy Service Project.

Please complete the next two pages of the application and submit to the JM Counseling Center by the required deadline. If you have any questions, please email TheCLServiceProject@gmail.com.

Ceili Leahy Service Scholarship 2023 Application

Section 1: Student Information

Name: _____

Address (street/city/zip code): _____

Phone Number (circle one: cell | home): _____

School email: _____@cityschools.com

Section 2: Name of educational institution you plan to attend:

When do you plan to begin there? _____

Section 3: School and Community Service Activities – Please list below your school and community service activities during your high school years. *(You may attach this on a separate sheet of paper.)*

Section 4 : Service Honors, Awards, and Achievements – Please list below any honors, awards, and achievements you have received as a result of service you have done during your high school years. *(You may attach this on a separate sheet of paper.)*

Section 5: Essay – In 500 words or fewer, please describe what you have learned from the service you have done and how this shapes your goals for your future. *(You may attach this on a separate sheet of paper.)*