

## **2025 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. 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.

Each year the Ceili Leahy Service Project awards a \$2,500 scholarship to a JM senior who embodies Ceili's spirit of service in order to encourage and support service-minded students to pursue further education.

The scholarship is awarded at the Senior Honors Program. All JM seniors with at least a 2.0 GPA are eligible to apply.

**Deadline:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025. Applications are due by 3:00 PM to the James Monroe High School Counseling Center, 2300 Washington Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401.

### **Ceili's Attributes**

Ceili had a strong commitment to public service. She cared deeply about people, human rights, justice, the environment, and her Fredericksburg and JM communities. 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 local community and/or high school 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 (CLSP). The CLSP furthers the legacy of Ceili Anne Leahy by fostering volunteerism and community service and helping to realize Ceili's vision for a just, tolerant, and sustainable world. Learn more about Ceili and the CLSP at [clserviceproject.org](https://clserviceproject.org) (<https://clserviceproject.org>).

**Please complete the next two pages of the application and submit to the JM Counseling Center by the deadline. If you have any questions, please email Leslie Leahy, President, Ceili Leahy Service Project at [TheCLServiceProject@gmail.com](mailto:TheCLServiceProject@gmail.com).**

## Ceili Leahy Service Scholarship 2025 Application

### Section 1: Student Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School email: \_\_\_\_\_@cityschools.com

Phone Number (circle one: cell | home): \_\_\_\_\_

### 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 during your high school years and how this shapes your goals for your future. *(You may attach this on a separate sheet of paper.)*