



2026 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 to encourage and support service-minded students to pursue further education.

All JM seniors with at least a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) are eligible to apply. Applicants may be interviewed at JM as part of the selection process. The scholarship is awarded at the Senior Honors Assembly in May 2026.

Scholarship Application Deadline: 6 PM Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Scholarship Eligibility Criteria

- ✓ Must be a **senior student attending James Monroe High School** (Fredericksburg, VA) and a member of JM's Class of 2026.
- ✓ Must have a **minimum GPA of 2.0** to apply.
- ✓ Must **submit the Google form application by 6 PM on Wednesday, April 15, 2026**. Here is the Google form link for student applicants: <https://forms.gle/NcVV1X8Eg6Wqj3DJ7>.
Paper copies will not be accepted. You should save or print a copy for your own records before clicking the Submit button.

Scholarship 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 below.

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.

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 Use Requirements and Payment

- ✓ 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:
 - Has a primary function of presenting formal education,
 - Maintains a regular faculty and curriculum, And
 - 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.
- ✓ Scholarship funds are paid directly to the educational institution if the school agrees in writing to use the funds to defray the student's expenses.

If you are awarded the scholarship, please keep in mind the scholarship use requirements and payment 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 <https://clserviceproject.org>. **If you have any questions about the scholarship, please contact Leslie Leahy, President, Ceili Leahy Service Project, at TheCLServiceProject@gmail.com or via cell (540.645.8512).**

**Reminder: Please complete & submit the Google Form
scholarship application by 6:00 PM, Wednesday, April 15, 2026.
Thank you!**