



# THE FOSS FAMILY PITTSFIELD TOWN SCHOLARSHIP TRUST 2026 APPLICATION

## THE FOSS FAMILY

The Foss Family Pittsfield Town Scholarship Trust was established by Richard and Lois Foss in 2007 for the benefit of Pittsfield Middle High School graduates who wish to further their education beyond high school. This unique fund offers scholarship awards to both current seniors and graduates of Pittsfield Middle High School.

The late Richard Foss was reared and educated in the town of Pittsfield. He fondly remembered the Pittsfield of his youth and the civic pride that he and his neighbors felt to be a part of a vigorous, vital, and industrious community in which neighbors looked out for each other. Richard credited the excellent education he received in the Pittsfield public school system with the development of values and work ethic which enabled him to enjoy great success in the construction industry in New Hampshire.

Richard and Lois grew concerned about the gradual decline in Pittsfield's fortunes in the years since their youth. Richard believed that to reverse this trend, and to recapture a strong sense of community and civic

pride. The town must invest in its "human capital," particularly, the post-secondary education of its young people who might feel this same spirit and potentially return from college or trade school to settle in Pittsfield and contribute to its rebirth and continued prosperity.

The Foss Family Pittsfield Town Scholarship Trust was established to support the Pittsfield community with the important public good of providing a strong, meaningful education for its residents. Beginning with the Class of 2008, this incredible fund has awarded a staggering **403** scholarships in the amount of **\$726,000**. These awards have allowed Pittsfield graduates to attend over sixty-six different colleges, universities and trade schools across seventeen states.

Although Richard Foss passed away in August 2016 and his wife Lois in May 2022, their belief in Pittsfield and particularly Pittsfield's young people lives on. Their legacy of generosity, community spirit, and belief in the power of education to enhance the lives of young people and communities continues through this trust.

## ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

**All PMHS graduates (current seniors and alumni) extending their education beyond high school may apply for a scholarship to pursue a two-year or four-year degree or technical/trade school education. Students may continue to apply for funding for up to four years as long as they continue to be a New Hampshire resident attending an accredited post-secondary institution.** Under consideration when awarding scholarships are financial need, academic achievement, leadership ability, and community involvement. It is intended that awards from the Trust will aid those who are already applying to schools with their financial package and to motivate those who may not have contemplated their ability to apply for further education because of financial restraints to do so. It is important that awardees will seek other sources of financial aid, including work study programs, so that they might co-invest in their education as opposed to relying exclusively on scholarship aid and other grants that might be available.

**Applications are due Wednesday, May 6th, 2026 by 3pm to Mrs. Muzzey in the Guidance Department at Pittsfield Middle High School.**

## Awardee Obligations & Award Disbursement

As a further condition to the granting of scholarship aid, each awardee will be asked to sign a non-binding pledge that the awardee will make some effort after graduation to contribute to the Trust to reflect the awardees' gratitude for the scholarship award. Award payments are available to students at the beginning of the fall semester upon receipt of enrollment verification. Checks are made payable to the institution they will be attending. Any change in educational plans will be reviewed and may result in an adjustment to the award. Awardees must notify the Guidance Department of changes in educational standing prior to the disbursement of scholarship funds.

# APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

**Applications will not be considered complete unless all documents are received. PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE DOCUMENTS TOGETHER**

- PMHS LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION** (page 3 and 4 of this application. Please note there are two different applications, one for current seniors and one for graduates.)
- ESSAY** (see below)
- RESUME**
- TWO CURRENT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** from individuals not related to the applicant that speak to the student's achievement, ability, and character.  
One letter from a member of your local community (community members may include, but are not limited to: coach, business owner, organization director, community service supervisor, etc...)  
One letter from a member of your school community OR another member of your local community (school employees may include, but are not limited to: teacher, advisor, administration, staff, guidance counselor, coach, co-curricular activity supervisor, etc...)
- OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT**  
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: The Guidance Department will include your official transcript after you submit your application.
- STUDENT AID REPORT** (including Estimated Family Contribution "EFC") generated upon submission of the FAFSA for the 2026-2027 academic year.
- FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER** from the post-secondary institution you will be attending. Returning college students who have not yet received their financial aid award letter should submit documentation of financial aid awarded for the current academic year.
- LIST OF ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS YOU HAVE BEEN AWARDED** (in addition to assistance provided by the post-secondary institution you will be attending).

**PLEASE SELECT THE APPROPRIATE ESSAY AND USE AS ESSAY TITLE. The essay must be typed and 4-6 paragraphs in length.**

**1st TIME APPLICANT:**

State how your personal and academic experiences at PMHS, as well as your contributions to Pittsfield, have changed you personally.

**2nd TIME APPLICANT:**

Over the past year, how have you contributed to the betterment of your community? How has this experience changed you personally and/or academically?

**3rd TIME APPLICANT:**

What are your current goals? Have they changed over the past two years? If so, how? How do you strive to achieve your goals? How have you contributed to the betterment of your community over the past year?

**4th TIME APPLICANT:**

Reflect on what you have learned or experienced in the last three years that will assist you in both reaching your goals and being a productive global citizen.

**Please submit your completed application**

**to: Pittsfield Middle High School**

**c/o Kerith Muzzey**

**23 Oneida Street**

**Pittsfield, NH 03263**



**Application Deadline: May 6, 2026**

**\*Application must arrive on or before the deadline to be considered.**



# PITTSFIELD MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

## CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Graduating seniors are eligible for many scholarships donated by local businesses, individuals, and service organizations. Scholarship committees are asked to select the recipients using the criteria set by the donor. If you need more space, your attached page(s) should include your name and corresponding number(s).

**TYPING USING THIS FILLABLE PDF IS ENCOURAGED. (DO NOT USE A CHROMEBOOK)**

**HOWEVER, IF HANDWRITING, PLEASE USE BLUE OR BLACK INK.**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

1. List all colleges and schools at which you have been accepted or have applied to and have applications pending (copies of letters of acceptance must be on file in the Guidance Department)

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2. Name of the post-secondary school (college, vocational school, etc...) you are planning to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_ *Tuition/Fees* \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been accepted? \_\_\_\_\_

*Room/Board* \_\_\_\_\_

Applied and waiting on decision? \_\_\_\_\_

*Expenses* \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

How much of this cost will you and your family be able to pay? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which program, major or course of study will you pursue? \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the level of degree you would like to pursue:

- 4-year degree (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, etc...)
- 2-year degree (Associate)
- Less than 2 year certificate program
- Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

4. List any honors or academic recognition received during your four years of high school. Include honor roll, National Honor Society, NH Scholars, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Please list your SAT/ACT scores:

**SAT:** Reading/Writing: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SAT:** Reading/Writing: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COMPOSITE SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

6. Please list how many community service hours you have and the community service you have been a part of in high school.

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\_\_\_\_\_

7. List all SCHOOL clubs, activities, athletics and any offices held during high school. Example: Varsity Basketball Grades 10-12, Vice President Grade 11, etc..)

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8. Good citizenship is often a criterion for scholarships and awards. List all NON-SCHOOL clubs and activities you have participated in during grades 9-12. Be sure to mention any honors or recognition received or offices held.

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9. Are you now employed? \_\_\_\_\_ Name of employer: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you worked there? \_\_\_\_\_ Number of hours per week? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Please use the space below to include any information about your need for financial aid.

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*I certify that the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the financial information provided with this application will be reviewed for scholarship distribution only and is considered confidential. I authorize personnel of Pittsfield Middle High School to release transcripts of my academic record and other information requested for consideration by the PMHS and Pittsfield Scholarship Committees with my completed application to that scholarship program.*

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

As parents/guardians of \_\_\_\_\_, we authorize personnel of Pittsfield Middle High School to release student information from our child's records and other information requested for consideration by the Pittsfield scholarship committee, Foss Scholarship Committee, and any other local scholarship committees should my child submit an application to that scholarship program.

Parent/Guardian Signature (If student is under 18 years old) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## FOSS FAMILY PITTSFIELD TOWN SCHOLARSHIP RUBRIC

ASPECT	Below Standards	Approaching Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
<b>Local Scholarship Application</b>	Not typed or handwritten in blue or black ink.		Typed or neatly handwritten in blue or black ink.	
<b>Two Letters of Recommendation</b>	Missing letter(s); letter(s) not current; letter(s) do not follow application instructions.	One or more letters are not current and/or one or more is not from the community; does not indicate achievement and ability.	Two letters, both are current; one from school and at least one from community; demonstrates achievement and ability and character.	Two letters, both are current; one from school and at least one from community; demonstrates exceptional achievement and ability and character.
<b>Transcript</b>	Transcript is not included.		Transcript is included.	
<b>Student Aid Report</b>	Missing		Submitted with application	
<b>Financial Aid Letter</b>	Missing		Submitted and consistent with the college indicated on the application.	
<b>Resume (Content and Conventions)</b>	Resume is not typed in an acceptable format. There is no evidence of community service and/or student leadership.	Resume is in somewhat of an acceptable format. There is little evidence of community service and/or student leadership.	Resume is in an acceptable format with no mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and/or capitalization. There is evidence of both community service and student leadership.	Resume is in an acceptable format with no mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and/or capitalization. There is strong evidence of both community service and student leadership.
<b>Essay - Content</b>	The thesis statement does not name the topic and does not preview what will be discussed. Includes one or fewer pieces of evidence that are not relevant and/or are not explained.	The thesis statement outlines some or all of the main points to be discussed but does not name the topic. Includes two pieces of evidence that support the position statement. At least one of the pieces of evidence and examples is relevant, and has an explanation that shows how the piece supports the author's position.	The thesis statement names the topic of the essay. Includes three or more pieces of evidence that support the position statement. Most of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant, and show how it supports the author's position.	The thesis statement names the topic of the essay and outlines main points to be discussed. Includes three or more pieces of evidence that support the position statement. All of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant, and show how it supports the author's position.
<b>Essay - Conventions</b>	Most sentences are not well-constructed or varied. Author makes more than four errors in grammar or spelling. Author makes several errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that interrupts the flow.	Most sentences are well-constructed, but there is no variation in structure. Author makes three or four errors in grammar or spelling. Author makes a few errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that interrupts the flow.	Most sentences are well-constructed and there is some varied sentence structure. Author makes one to two errors in grammar or spelling. Author makes one or two errors in capitalization or punctuation, but the essay is still easy to read.	All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure. There are no errors in capitalization or punctuation, so the essay is exceptionally easy to read.