



United Way of
Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike

2026 Mike Munchak Community Service Scholarship

PROGRAM OUTLINE

BACKGROUND

Mike Munchak has been teaming up with the United Way annual charity golf classic for the past 30 years serving as our tournament host and NFL Celebrity for nearly the entire time. In 2002 the event was changed to the Mike Munchak Charity Golf Classic and continues to be one of the premiere golf events in our area each season.

In honor of Mike's commitment to our community and the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne & Pike Counties, during the 2011 event it was announced that a special Mike Munchak Community Services Educational Scholarship is being formed with the initial scholarship awarded at our event in June 2012.

PROGRAM

The United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties has established the Mike Munchak Community Services Scholarship to assist high school students from Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike Counties, PA who plan to continue their education at an accredited university, college, or trade school in a two or four year degree program.

To be eligible candidates must be participants in programs funded by United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties, have a demonstrated commitment through community service activities and be full-time residents and/or students of a school district within Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike Counties. Additional requirements including academic achievement, agency recommendation and a track record of community service as described in the section entitled "Eligibility".

The scholarship will be awarded for a one year period. This is a one-time scholarship for graduating seniors and is not renewable beyond this one year period.

The Award recipient will be chosen by the Scholarship Selection Committee and all decisions of the Selection Committee are final.

The scholarship will be awarded annually at the discretion of the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties pending the availability of funding. Funding for the scholarship will be made available from the proceeds of the Annual Mike Munchak Charity Golf Classic to benefit United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties.

If selected, the scholarship recipient will receive \$6,300.00 for the 2026/2027 award.

A formal awarding of the Scholarship will take place at the Annual Mike Munchak Charity Golf Classic dinner. The 2026 dinner is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2026 at the Elmhurst Country Club. Photos of recipient and parent (s) will be taken with Mike during the program portion of the tournament. A current photo release must be on file with the United Way prior to the event and is included in the application packet.

Awards are granted without regard to race, creed, color, religion, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability or national origin.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants for the Mike Munchak Community Service Scholarship shall:

- Be graduating seniors from a public, private or charter school in Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike Counties, PA and/or be full-time residents of Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike Counties, PA.
- Have demonstrated community service activities within programs/agencies funded by United Way.
- Meet minimum academic requirements (GPA of 2.5 or better).
- Submit a valid FAFSA Score (SAI Number). Copy of the page indicating score must be attached.
- Be accepted by an accredited university, college or trade school in a two or four year degree program.
- Complete and submit a valid signed application form along with all required documentation, essay response and letter of reference from the nominating United Way funded program/agency.

APPLICATION

Interested applicants are required to complete the application, enclose all required documents of support including your essay and letter of recommendation and mail to the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties, ATTENTION SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, PO Box 526 Scranton, PA 18501-0526.

An online version is available and can be completed on our website located at www.uwlc.net.

Applications are to be postmarked or submitted no later than April 24, 2026.

Applicants will receive acknowledgement as to the receipt of their application on a rolling basis.

Applicants will be evaluated on the information supplied. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated. All information received is considered confidential and will only be reviewed by the Scholarship Selection Committee and appropriate staff support.

PROGRAM/AGENCY LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

All applications must include a written recommendation from the Executive Director or their authorized official Agency Staff Representative documenting community service involvement and reasons applicant should be selected. The recommendation must be from a program/agency funded by United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike counties.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

One recipient will be selected in any given year. The award will be for one year only.

Recipients will be selected from a pool of qualified applicants with consideration given to those who demonstrate an extraordinary involvement in community service with a United Way funded program/agency, past academic performance and future potential, statement of career goals, unusual personal family circumstances, response to the essay question and stated recommendations of program/agency Executive Director or their authorized official Agency Staff Representative.

Selection of recipients is made by the Scholarship Selection Committee. At no time will any officer or employee of the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties be part of the selection process. All applicants, in submitting a signed application, agree that the decision of the Scholarship Selection committee is final.

EXCLUSIONS

United Way staff, board members and their immediate families, the Scholarship Selection Committee and their immediate families are not eligible to apply.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties will pay the scholarship in TWO equal installments mailed directly to the college, university or trade school with the checks made payable to the school in the name of the student. The scholarship recipient must furnish the official name, address, phone number and point of contact to the United Way for the check to be posted.

The first payment will be released in August once written notification of acceptance from the school is received by United Way. The second payment will be released in January upon written notification from the recipient demonstrating they maintain a full-time status with the school.

At no time will the scholarship amount exceed the total cost of tuition, books and room and board.

OBLIGATIONS

The recipients of this scholarship shall have no obligation to the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties, its funded programs and/or agencies. They are, however, required to notify the United Way of any changes in address, school enrollment or status, or other relevant information that may affect the intended utilization of this scholarship.

The recipient agrees that the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties may use his/her name and/or photograph for publicity purposes upon acceptance of this scholarship without further notification or compensation.

This scholarship shall become null and void and no funds shall be tendered if the selected recipient violates any of these agreements, including withdrawal from school or dropping below full time student status.

REVISIONS

The United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship program and make changes at any time including termination of this program.

All applicants understand that this is a one-time one-year scholarship and is nonrenewable. The availability and amount of the Scholarship will be determined annually based on available funding.



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2026 Mike Munchak Community Service Scholarship

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

GENERAL

Please type or print all information (EXCEPT SIGNATURES)

Applications must be postmarked or submitted no later than April 24, 2026.

To be eligible applicants must be:

- Be graduating seniors from a public, private or charter school in Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike Counties, PA and/or full-time residents of Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike Counties, PA.
- Have demonstrated community service activities within programs/agencies funded by United Way.
- Meet minimum academic requirements (GPA of 2.5 or better).
- Submit a valid FAFSA Score (SAI number). Copy of the page indicating score must be attached.
- Be accepted by an accredited university, college or trade school in a two or four year degree program.
- Complete and submit a valid signed application form along with all required documentation, essay response and letter of reference from the nominating United Way funded program/agency.

APPLICANT DATA

Complete this section with your personal data and include documentation to verify;

- Your permanent home address is within Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike County.
- You are a high school senior attending school in Lackawanna, Wayne or Pike County.

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

List the names and contact information for your parent(s) and/or legal guardian.

HIGH SCHOOL AND TRANSCRIPT DATA

Applicant should identify High School; appropriate School Official; including name, title and telephone number and include a copy of their transcript of grades.

FAFSA SCORE

Applicant must submit a valid FASFA score (SAI Number). Copy of the page indicating score must be attached.
(Please do not include personal financial information)

ACTIVITIES, AWARDS AND HONORS

List all high school activities, awards, work experience and honors.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Please list the programs and/or agencies where you have demonstrated community service activities and briefly describe your personal involvement.

POST SECONDARY SCHOOL DATA

Indicate the name of post secondary school you plan to attend, degree being pursued, and whether it is a two year or four year program.

ESSAY

Attach a typed or printed essay of 1500 words or less on the following topic: (essay should be double-spaced in 12 pt. font)

How have your community service activities contributed to your leadership qualities? Please list specific ways that your Community Service Activities have impacted and changed your individual goals, aspirations and future plans

Please make certain to write your name at the top of your essay. ****AI assisted essays will be disqualified.****

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

All applications must include a written recommendation from the Executive Director or their authorized/official Agency Staff Representative documenting community service involvement and reasons applicant should be selected. The recommendation must be from a program/agency funded by United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties.

CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED ENCLOSURES

- Letter of recommendation
- Copy of high school transcripts
- Copy of FAFSA (SAI Number) page indicating score
- Essay
- Signed Marketing Release Form (if under 18 years old, must contain signature of parent or guardian)

CERTIFICATIONS / LIABILITIES

The Scholarship Selection Committee has the sole responsibility for selecting recipients based on the criteria set forth herein.

All applicants and their parents or guardians, in submitting a signed application, agree to hold harmless the United Way of Lackawanna, Wayne and Pike Counties and their respective agents, including the Scholarship Selection Committee and agree that the decision of the Scholarship Selection Committee is final.

All applicants understand that this is a one-time, one-year scholarship and is nonrenewable. The availability of the Scholarship will be determined annually based on available funding.