

Waterford and the Rossmoor Scholarship Foundation

Waterford and the Rossmoor Scholarship Foundation (RSF) are especially pleased to be able to help the 2026 Waterford scholarship recipients with the next phase of their education.

Hannah Fletcher will be starting a PhD program in Physical Therapy. Diego Islas has a bachelor's degree and is going into training as a firefighter/ EMT. Perri Jill Guiles, a supervisor at Waterford, also has a bachelor's degree and will supplement that with computer technology training. Both Haley Fletcher and Melissa Duran have completed their prerequisites at community college. Fletcher will begin nursing training; Duran, ultrasound technology. Nahomy Gonzales will begin her undergraduate work at DVC.

For the past fifteen years RSF has included as one of its subdivisions the Waterford Scholarship program. Waterford residents generously donate toward scholarships for their employees, who then go through the same application process as all RSF applicants. Waterford employees who have worked for six months or more are eligible to apply for these scholarships. An in-house scholarship committee formed by Waterford residents works closely with an RSF team. The Waterford committee takes care of publicity, makes eligible students aware of the program, handles fund raising, and determines how many scholarships will be awarded each year.

Significantly, members of the Waterford committee also mentor students interested in applying for the scholarship, an important responsibility since most of the applicants are the first in their family to attend higher education. Mentoring includes making students aware of various programs in local universities, community colleges and trade schools; helping students decide what program would best meet their needs; assisting them in applying to schools; and guiding them through the scholarship application process. Mentors frequently continue to work with students when students enter the next phase of education.

The RSF Waterford Committee consisting of three RSF trustees coordinates between RSF and the Waterford committee, helps with making students aware of the program, provides information about various educational programs, and interviews the students. Applicants are evaluated not only on their academic record but also on their work record, i.e. reliability, punctuality, ability to work with staff and residents, general work ethic. The RSF committee ranks the students and sends this information to the in-house committee, which then determines the number of scholarships to be awarded. Funds are released when students show evidence of enrollment in an accredited institution.

RSF has enjoyed its partnership with Waterford's scholarship program, which is self-supporting. To donate directly to RSF, however--"every dollar donated goes into a scholarship"-- contributions can be mailed to Rossmoor Scholarship Foundation, P.O. Box 2056, Walnut Creek, CA 94595, or made online at <https://tinyurl.com/RossmoorRSF> by clicking DONATE.

Submitted by: Gloria Reid, RSF Trustee