



#### Scholarship Announcement Letter

Dear Guidance Office,

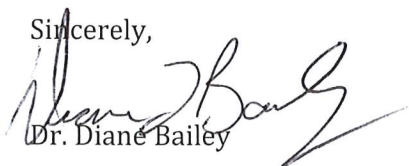
We are pleased to announce the Margaret H. Shaloka Scholarship, beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year. This award honors Margaret H. Shaloka, a beloved educator whose dedication to learning, critical thinking, and compassion shaped generations of Selinsgrove students.

This scholarship supports a senior who demonstrates academic promise, strong character, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to using their abilities in meaningful ways.

This scholarship is for students planning to pursue studies in English, literature, education, or the humanities, and preferred consideration will be given to those meeting these guidelines and enrolling at Bloomsburg University.

Enclosed are the scholarship materials, including eligibility criteria, application form, instructions, and the submission checklist.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Diane Bailey



### Scholarship Overview & Purpose

The **Margaret H. Shaloka Scholarship** honors the legacy of a beloved educator whose passion for learning, literature, and critical thinking shaped generations of Selinsgrove students.

This annual scholarship supports a graduating Selinsgrove Area High School senior who demonstrates academic dedication, strong character, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to using their talents in meaningful ways.

Preference may be given to students planning to pursue studies in English, literature, education, or the humanities, or those intending to enroll at Bloomsburg University.



### Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility requirements for the **Margaret H. Shaloka Scholarship** are designed to reflect the values, character, and academic spirit embodied by **Margaret H. Shaloka**.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior at Selinsgrove Area High School
- Demonstrate strong academic responsibility and character
- Show dedication to learning, writing, service, or leadership
- Submit all required application materials by the stated deadline

#### Preferred Consideration

Applicants may receive preference if they:

- Plan to major in English, literature, education, or the humanities
- Intend to enroll at Bloomsburg University



### Instructions for Students & Counselors

The following instructions outline the required steps for completing and submitting the application for the **Margaret H. Shaloka Scholarship**.

#### STUDENTS:

- Complete all sections of the application form.
- Write a 500–700 word essay addressing how learning, literature, mentorship, or personal growth has shaped your goals.
- Attach a copy of your transcript.
- Request at least one letter of recommendation.
- Review the Student Checklist to ensure all required items are included.

#### COUNSELORS:

- Verify the student's academic standing and graduation status.
- Assist students in preparing complete, accurate application materials.
- Submit all materials to the designated collection point by the deadline.

Preferred consideration may be given to students planning to pursue studies in English, literature, education, or the humanities, or those intending to enroll at Bloomsburg University.





### Student Submission Checklist

Before submitting your application for the **Margaret H. Shaloka Scholarship**, please ensure that all items below are completed:

- ☐ Completed Application Form
- ☐ 500–700 Word Essay
- ☐ Transcript
- ☐ Letter(s) of Recommendation
- ☐ Intended College/University field completed (recommended)
- ☐ Intended Major field completed (recommended)
- ☐ Signature and Date on Application Form

All materials must be submitted by the stated deadline.



### Student Application Form

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Intended College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major: \_\_\_\_\_

(Completing these fields is recommended for preferred consideration.)

#### Essay Requirement:

In 500–700 words, describe how learning, literature, mentorship, or personal growth has shaped your goals and character.

#### Additional Required Materials:

- Transcript
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Completed Checklist

By submitting this application, I affirm that all information provided is accurate and my own work.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE MARGARET SHALOKA SCHOLARSHIP

A Legacy of Literature, Learning, and Lifelong Influence

Award Amount: \$1,000 per academic year

Renewable: Yes — recipients may reapply annually through senior year of college

### 1. SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

The Margaret Shaloka Scholarship is established to honor the life, work, and enduring influence of Margaret Shaloka, a beloved English teacher whose compassion, wisdom, and devotion shaped generations of Selinsgrove students. Margaret believed deeply in the power of words — to challenge, to heal, to reveal truth, and to change lives. She nurtured not only the minds of her students, but also their confidence, character, and courage.

This scholarship supports graduating seniors from Selinsgrove Area High School who share a passion for English, literature, writing, or education — especially those who aspire to teach and carry forward the same spark of inspiration Margaret gave so freely.

In honoring her, this award seeks to continue the legacy she built: empowering young people to think critically, write boldly, and use their voices with purpose.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be considered, applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior at Selinsgrove Area High School.
- Be enrolling in a four-year college or university.
- Intend to major in English, Literature, Writing, Secondary Education (English), or a related field.
- Demonstrate strong academic commitment, curiosity, and a passion for the humanities.

Priority consideration will be given to students attending Bloomsburg University, especially those pursuing a path in English Education or Secondary English Teaching.

### 3. RENEWAL GUIDELINES

Recipients are eligible to reapply each year through their senior year of college if they:

- Maintain enrollment in an English-related major,
- Remain in good academic standing,
- Submit a brief annual update or reflection on their academic progress.

#### 4. APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Applicants may be asked to submit:

- A short essay (500–750 words) responding to a prompt such as:

“Describe how literature or a particular teacher has shaped your life or future goals.”

“Why do you want to become an English teacher, writer, or scholar?”

- A transcript
- One letter of recommendation from a teacher or counselor

#### 5. TRIBUTE STATEMENT

Margaret Shaloka was more than a teacher — she was a force of nature inside a classroom. She believed books were more than pages, and students were more than test scores. She pushed minds open, taught with heart, and left fingerprints on the lives of everyone she touched.

Her classroom was a place where thinking was not just encouraged, but required... where writing mattered... where being curious was a strength... where a student could discover who they were — and who they might become.

The Margaret Shaloka Scholarship honors her lifelong dedication to the power of language and the potential of young people. May every recipient feel the same spark of possibility she once gave so generously.

#### 6. SHORT VERSION FOR PROGRAM LISTINGS

The Margaret Shaloka Scholarship: Awarded annually to a graduating senior pursuing a major in English or English Education, with preference for students attending Bloomsburg University. Renewable through senior year of college. Established in honor of beloved educator Margaret Shaloka, whose passion for literature and teaching inspired generations.