



Southernmost Illinois Delta Empowerment Zone, Inc.  
330 Enterprise Lane, Suite 110  
Mounds, IL 62964  
618-745-6307  
618-745-6360(Fax)  
[tsmith@sidezoffice.org](mailto:tsmith@sidezoffice.org)  
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January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## **SIDEZ SCHOLARSHIP**

The Southernmost Illinois Delta Empowerment Zone, Inc. (SIDEZ) Willard Murrie Scholarship will be awarded annually to a Shawnee Community College student with an exemplary record of volunteer service to the community. This scholarship will be available in the fall of 2026 to a student that is enrolled, or plans to enroll, full time and lives in the Shawnee Community College District. The funds will not be paid to the recipient of the scholarship until full time enrollment has been completed. The scholarship is \$500.00.

The SIDEZ Board of Directors established this scholarship in honor of Willard Murrie, a founding member of SIDEZ and long-time minister who has received numerous awards for his community service work. SIDEZ Board President Rex Wilburn says, "The scholarship is a great way for us to thank Mr. Murrie for his years of service and leadership while also ensuring that his legacy is passed on to future generations."

For more information about the Willard Murrie Scholarship or other programs and services SIDEZ provides, please contact Tabatha Smith at 618-745-6307 or [tsmith@sidezoffice.org](mailto:tsmith@sidezoffice.org).

Sincerely,

Tabatha Smith, Executive Director

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**WILLARD MURRIE SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Southernmost Illinois Delta Empowerment Zone, Inc. (SIDEZ)**

**PURPOSE OF SCHOLARSHIP**

- To assist students with a record of volunteer service to the community in furthering their academic and career goals at Shawnee Community College.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Live in Shawnee Community College District.
- Must be enrolled full time in an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science or one-year certificate program at Shawnee College.
- Preference given to individuals that do not have another grant, scholarship or agency to cover tuition, fees and textbook charges.
- Completed Application Form.
- Resume.
- Two letters of recommendation describing and verifying service to community from non-family members.
- Submit a letter along with the application giving a brief life history, need for the scholarship and long-term educational and future career goals.
- Copy of GPA if applicant is in high school.
- SAT Scores if applicant is in high school.

**AMOUNT**

- \$500

**DECISION ON AWARD**

- The SIDEZ Board of Directors will make award decision.

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE  
RECEIVED BY MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**



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### Willard Murrie Scholarship Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

High School Graduate? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_      GED Graduate? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

High School you graduated/will graduate from or where you obtained your GED

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Year Graduated/will Graduate \_\_\_\_\_

What is (will be) your SCC Major? \_\_\_\_\_

Recognitions, Certificates, special activities in high school, and or other  
recognitions \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Community Service/Volunteer Work \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE  
RECEIVED BY MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**