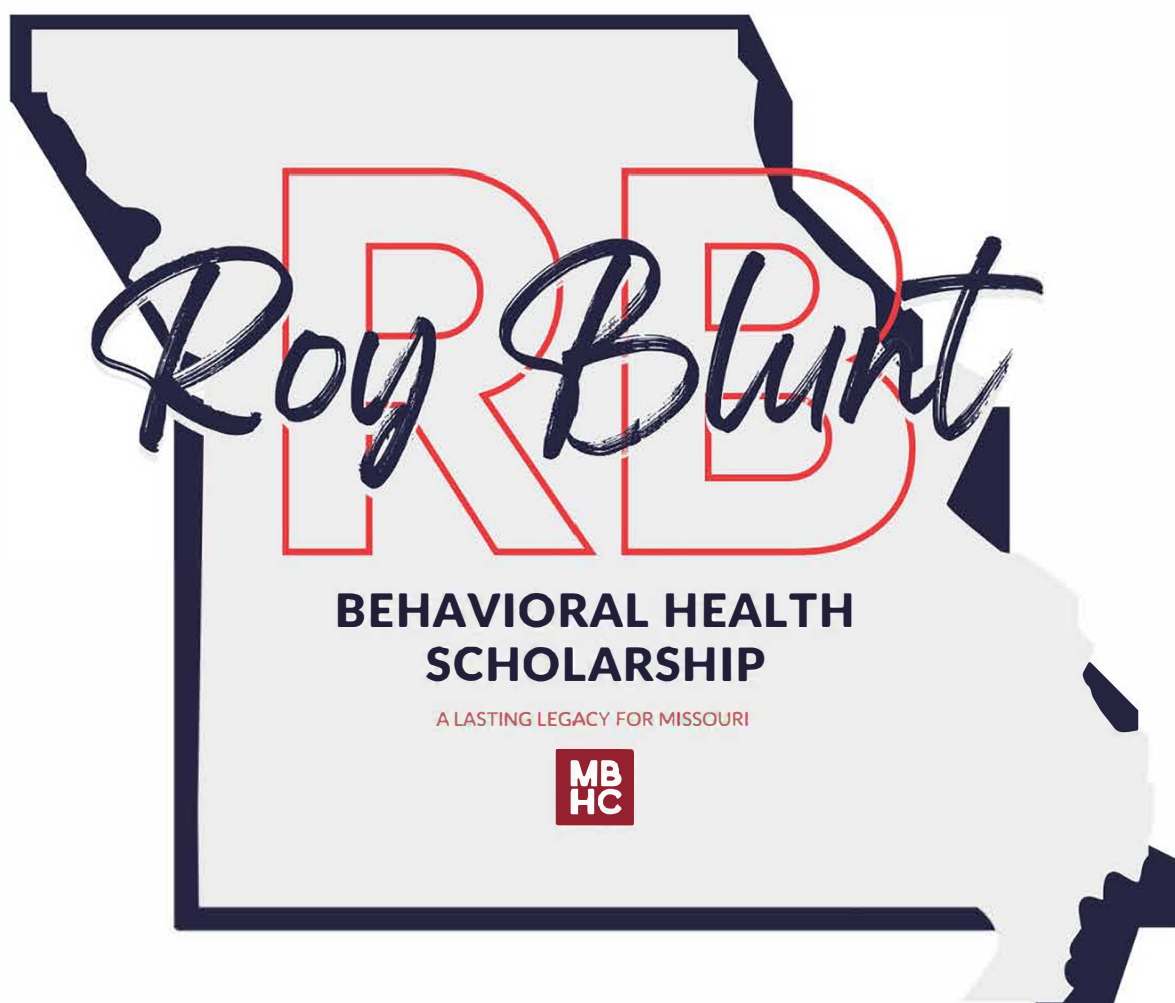


APRIL 2026

APPLICATION AND GUIDANCE

ROY BLUNT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM





ROY BLUNT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND GUIDANCE

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INTRODUCTION

The Missouri Behavioral Health Council's (MBHC) mission is to enhance access to care for all Missourians in need. Missouri's former state senator, Roy Blunt, champions this mission; he created a legacy of genuinely improving and expanding access to value-based healthcare services for every Missourian. The Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship is a tribute to his success and supports Missouri students who want to invest in their careers in the community behavioral health field.

"From this day forward, when the history books are written about mental health, Senator Roy Blunt will be identified as the single most important public official in creating a real community-based mental healthcare system across the country."

-BRENT MCGINTY, PRESIDENT/CEO,
MISSOURI BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL

In 2023, upon retiring from over a decade of public service as Missouri's United States Senator, the Missouri Behavioral Health Council created the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship Fund for students looking to further their careers serving in the community behavioral health treatment system. Sponsorship and donations are appreciated to support the critical need for workforce development in behavioral health. Visit us online to learn more about opportunities to support and apply for the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship.





ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

An applicant's commitment to participate in the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship Program is serious, as is the need for access to behavioral health care services in communities throughout Missouri. Only residents committed to remaining in Missouri to work should consider applying for the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship.

FUNDING PREFERENCES AND AWARDS

The Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship program is competitive. The program anticipates more applicants for awards than there are available funds.

The scholarship awards will be paid directly to the academic institution for tuition and fees. The funding will be distributed as follows:

- » Award of up to \$ 5,000 in tuition and fees per semester for programs in a community college setting or an associate degree in a university setting.
- » Award of up to \$10,000 in tuition and fees per semester for programs offered at a four-year university for a bachelor's or master's level program or higher.

This scholarship can be utilized in conjunction with other scholarships, Federal Pell Grant Program funding, etc. Please note, however, that the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship funding will be paid directly to the academic institution for tuition and fees.

Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate a significant interest and intention to remain in Missouri and work in the community behavioral health system. This factor, along with the following priorities and preferences, will be considered when selecting recipients of the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship:

- **Biographical Essay:** Responses to the biographical essay in the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship application aid in review and selection and help gauge an applicant's interest in behavioral health care and dedication to work in the Missouri community behavioral health treatment system.
- **Letter of Recommendation (Optional):** A letter that provides a detailed description of the applicant's commitment to work in behavioral healthcare, education/work achievements, community and civic involvement, etc., will aid in the review and selection process. This could also be a letter of recommendation from the administrator or supervisor of a Missouri community behavioral health provider with whom the student has worked, volunteered, shadowed, or received services.
- **Commitment to Missouri:** Applicants who display characteristics that indicate a higher likelihood of remaining in Missouri once an applicant's education or licensure is completed, as shown by assessing the applicant's involvement with past work/volunteer experiences and an applicant's background.

Current Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship recipients may be eligible to continue to receive funding. Submission of application is required for each semester. An updated biographical statement and updated letter(s) of recommendation are required. Granting of continuation awards depends upon the availability of funds and is contingent upon the recipient:

- » Attending the Missouri Academic Program in which he/she/they were originally funded and are not repeating any course work.
- » Being in good standing with the Academic Program in which he/she/they are attending.



PROCESS FOR DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP

The MBHC will disburse payments directly to the academic institution on behalf of the recipient in the form of a lump sum payment for tuition and fees.

ROY BLUNT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

The following documentation must accompany the application to be eligible for the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship. Incomplete applications will not be processed, and the applicant will not be considered.

SUBMISSION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

All supporting documentation must be submitted with the application. Supporting documentation includes the following items:

- 1 Completed Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship Application.
- 2 Proof of U.S. Citizenship or U.S. National Status. A copy of the applicant's birth certificate that states U.S. Citizenship, the ID Page of the applicant's U.S. Passport, or a certification of naturalization will suffice.
- 3 Proof of Missouri residency. A copy of one of the following examples of proof of Missouri residency will suffice:
 - Current Missouri Driver's License
 - Current State of Missouri Identification Card
 - Current Missouri Voter's Registration Card
- 4 Current Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV).
- 5 Biographical essay. This essay must be typed and, at a minimum, include the following:
 - Explain your interest in working in the community behavioral health system in Missouri and the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship.



- Describe student or work experience with underserved populations (examples: community behavioral health centers, public health departments, community/volunteer service, shadowing, etc.). The statement should include:
 - Organization name, location, and supervisor name.
 - Start and end dates of each experience.
 - Brief description of the experience.
 - Knowledge and skills gained from the experience.
 - Applicant's long-term professional plans after graduation.

+ Letter of Recommendation (Optional).

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

- July 1, 2026 – for the fall 2026 semester
- October 31, 2026 – for the spring 2027 semester
- May 31, 2027 – for the fall 2027 semester
- October 31, 2027 – for the spring 2028 semester

NOTIFICATION OF ROY BLUNT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Individuals selected as recipients of the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship are notified in writing. If the individual does not respond to the Missouri Behavioral Health Council by the deadline indicated, the applicant's opportunity to participate in the program will expire. It will then be offered to an alternate individual.

Before signing the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship application, applicants should review the entire application and guidance to ensure a complete understanding.

Individuals whose applications did not fall within the competitive range to be considered by the Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship will also be notified.

All Roy Blunt Behavioral Health Scholarship awards are paid directly to the applicant's academic institution.





MISSOURI BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL ROY BLUNT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

To begin, click [here](#) to be taken to the digital scholarship application.





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