

# TEXAS RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2026

### Texas Rural Education Association Awards \$78,500 in Scholarships to Rural Texas Students

The Texas Rural Education Association (TREA) proudly announces the recipients of its 2026 Student Scholarships, recognizing exceptional graduating seniors from rural school districts across Texas. Each recipient will be awarded a **\$2,500 scholarship** in support of their continued education.

**This year, TREA will award \$78,500 in scholarships to 41 students across rural Texas**, reflecting the organization's continued investment in the future of rural education.

These scholarship recipients represent the very best of rural Texas as students who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and a strong commitment to their communities.

Scholarship recipients will be honored during the TREA Scholarship Banquet at the 2026 Annual Conference, held June 15 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in Round Rock.

**"These students embody the future of rural Texas," said Executive Director Bill Tarleton. "Their hard work, perseverance, and dedication to their education inspire all of us. TREA is honored to support them as they take the next step in their journey."**

TREA's scholarship program is made possible through the generous support of sponsors and partners who share a commitment to advancing opportunities for rural students across the state.

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### 2026 TREA Student Scholarship Recipients *(Listed alphabetically by student name)*

Evelyn Alvarez — Hereford ISD  
Karlee Beavers — Gunter ISD  
Jace Chisum — Jayton-Girard ISD  
Connor Dunlap — Aquilla ISD  
Will Gerik — Abbott ISD  
Austen Gordon — Prairiland ISD  
Maddox Henderson — Kemp ISD  
Addison Hetmer — Kaufman ISD  
Beth Kellermeier — Miles ISD  
Sydney Kuykendall — Llano ISD  
Kaitlyn Lentz — Blue Ridge ISD  
Virginia Ludewig — Woodville ISD

Shaylee McKown — Iola ISD  
Logan Miller — George West ISD  
Jeremiah Nicely — Goliad ISD  
Maria Pham — Palacios ISD  
Toxey Quinn — Wharton ISD  
Alana Sharp — Lindsay ISD  
Marisa Shepherd — London ISD  
Jaxon Talbert — Tidehaven ISD  
Kendall Thompson — Forsan ISD  
Landon Tyler — Ira ISD  
Rylee Vahlenkamp — Miles ISD  
Allison Watts — Medina ISD  
Grier Wood — Prairiland ISD

TREA extends its sincere congratulations to these students, their families, and their school districts.