



## **Branches for the Lake Scholarship Opportunities**

Supporting the Next Generation of Leaders at the Lake of the Ozarks

Branches for the Lake is proud to offer two scholarship opportunities for graduated or graduating high school students in the Lake area. These scholarships are open to any student who meets the criteria, regardless of school district.

### **Janice Gentile Future Educators Scholarship**

For students pursuing a degree in teaching or education-related fields. Honors a lifelong educator and community leader.

### **Wrendy Marcinik Wellness Scholarship**

For students pursuing careers in wellness, holistic health, or personal care such as cosmetology, massage therapy, and esthetics.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Graduated or graduating high school students in the Lake of the Ozarks area
- Must meet scholarship-specific criteria
- Demonstrate character, commitment, and community impact

Application Deadline: April 25, 2026

Award Announcement: May 1, 2026

Apply Here: <https://branchesforthelake.org/events/>

Questions? Contact us at [branches4tl@gmail.com](mailto:branches4tl@gmail.com)

*Investing in people. Strengthening our community. One connection at a time.*



## **Branches for the Lake Scholarship Program**

### ***Wrendy Marcinik Wellness Scholarship***

### **Wellness, Holistic Health & Personal Care Careers**

#### **Purpose:**

This scholarship supports graduating high school seniors pursuing careers in wellness, holistic health, and personal care industries such as cosmetology, esthetics, massage therapy, chiropractic support, and related fields.

#### **Applicant Information:**

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

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

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

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

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### **Career Plans:**

Program/School/Apprenticeship: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Path You Are Pursuing: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1: Experience & Interest in Your Field:**

1. What experiences have you had that relate to your chosen field (work, shadowing, personal interest, etc.)?
  2. What have you learned from these experiences?
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**Section 2: Why This Career Path? (300-500 words)**

- What inspired you to pursue this career?
  - What draws you to helping others through this type of work?
  - What kind of professional do you hope to become?
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**Section 3: Wellness & Community Impact (300-500 words)**

- Why are wellness and self-care important in today's world?
  - How can your career improve people's lives?
  - How will you contribute to your community through your work?
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**Section 4: Personal Growth & Resilience (250-400 words)**

- Describe a challenge you have faced.
  - How did you overcome it?
  - How will this experience shape how you help others?
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**Section 5: Commitment to the Local Community (250-400 words)**

- Do you plan to serve or return to the Lake of the Ozarks community?
- Why or why not?
- What impact do you hope to make locally?

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**Financial Consideration (Optional):**

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**References (2):**

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

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

## **Application Submission Instructions**

To ensure your application is reviewed fairly and completely, please follow these guidelines when preparing your responses:

- All essay responses must be typed.
- Use a standard, easy-to-read font (such as Times New Roman or Arial, 11–12 pt).
- Essays must be double-spaced with standard 1-inch margins.
- Clearly label each section (Section 1, Section 2, etc.).
- Please include your name at the top of each page.
- Stay within the suggested word counts for each section.
- Be thoughtful, specific, and personal in your responses.
- Incomplete or handwritten applications may not be considered.

**Applications must be submitted by *April 25, 2026*.**

Please email them to [branches4tl@gmail.com](mailto:branches4tl@gmail.com).

**Or you may mail them to:  
*Branches for the Lake, Inc.*  
*980 Airport Road, Suite B*  
*Osage Beach, MO 65065***

**Please direct any questions to the email above.**

**Recipients will be chosen by May 1, 2026. Late submissions may not be accepted.**

### **How Your Application Will Be Evaluated (Rubric Summary)**

- **Passion for Career Path (20 points)**
- **Community Impact (20 points)** - Demonstrates a desire to positively contribute to the community.
- **Experience & Effort (20 points)**
- **Character & Resilience (20 points)** - Evidence of perseverance, responsibility, and personal growth.
- **Future Goals & Vision (10 points)**  
Clear direction and thoughtful career goals.
- **Financial Need (10 points – optional consideration)**  
Consideration of financial barriers to continuing education.

Finalists may be contacted for a brief interview. Scholarship recipients may also be invited to stay connected with Branches for the Lake through mentorship and community involvement opportunities.