



# Bonnie Sue Heller Memorial Scholarship

## **What is the HGSA Scholarship Program?**

The Helena Girls' Softball Association (HGSA) established the Bonnie Sue Heller Memorial Scholarship for the benefit of high school senior girls who have participated in HGSA for a minimum of two league seasons.

## **Who is eligible for the scholarship award?**

All high school senior girls who have participated in the HGSA program for at least two (2) league seasons. Participation in Rookies, Minors, Majors, and/or Seniors is considered for eligibility. Primarily, the Scholarship Committee is interested in those girls who made HGSA a part of their lives season after season.

## **How do girls apply?**

Scholarship information and application packages are available on the HGSA website at [Helena Girls Softball Association](http://HelenaGirlsSoftballAssociation.com). All scholarship applications are to be completed and sent to "Bonnie Sue Heller Memorial Scholarship" in care of the HGSA (PO Box 5021, Helena MT 59604) by **April 10th, 2026**.

## **How many scholarships are given each year?**

One or two scholarships will be awarded each year based on the entries submitted. Currently, this will be a \$1,000.00 award each.

## **How can the League Board Help?**

The HGSA Board can facilitate the awarding of the scholarship to a deserving senior by maintaining a list of the high school senior HGSA players in the league. The President, Vice President, or the Division Representative should make certain that their high school seniors receive a Bonnie Sue Heller Memorial Scholarship Application and then assist them with their efforts to apply.

## **How are high school senior recipients chosen?**

Applications are reviewed and the preliminary criterion is verified. A total of 100 points may be awarded as determined by the panel of three or more Scholarship Committee Members.

Section 1 – HGSA Participation (one point for each year of participation in HGSA - maximum 10 points)

Section 2 – Academic Achievement and Extracurricular activities (maximum 20 points)

Section 3 – Two Required Letters of Recommendation (maximum 10 points)

- one HGSA coach or one community leader's recommendation
- one school personnel recommendation

Section 4 – Essay (maximum 60 points)



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### **Criteria established for HGSA high school seniors:**

1. Applicants must currently be a senior in high school.
2. Applicants must have participated in HGSA for at least two (2) seasons.
3. Applicants must submit an Official High School Transcript. (There is no minimum G.P.A. required but applicants will receive points based on their current cumulative GPA at the end of their seventh semester in school.)
4. Applicants must submit one (1) signed letter of recommendation from an HGSA Program Adult Volunteer or another community leader. This could include such persons as employers, leaders in their church, a Girl Scout leader, or any of the many other known youth organizations to which the applicant has belonged.
5. Applicants must submit one (1) signed letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, administrator, or other personnel at their school. The letter should outline the senior's leadership qualities and why they deserve the HGSA scholarship.
6. Applicants must have participated in some form of extracurricular activity during their high school years **and** include a list of these activities including the number of years of participation. Employment, school approved extracurricular activities, and participation in community organizations is acceptable. Please include any honors or awards received during the participation of these activities.

### **How scholarship recipients will be determined:**

1. All scholarship applications will be sent by the applicant to the HGSA. The Scholarship Committee will screen all applications to verify that all the established criteria have been met.
2. Following the initial screening of criteria, all verified applications will be scored by the HGSA Scholarship Selection Committee according to the written guidelines.

This \$1,000 (nonrenewable) scholarship is awarded to support tuition at a 2- or 4- Year College or University during the 2026 fall academic semester. Priority is given to those girls who made HGSA a part of their lives season after season. You must be accepted into 2- or 4- year College or University before the scholarship will be awarded. The scholarship will be sent directly to the college or university financial aid office in your name. If you do not attend, you will be expected to return the scholarship to the HGSA. The application for this scholarship is due by April 10, 2026. Applications are available on-line at: [Helena Girls Softball Association](http://HelenaGirlsSoftballAssociation.org) or in the high school counselor's office.

This scholarship will be awarded and presented at the League Tournament held in June.



## Bonnie Sue Heller Memorial Scholarship

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PARENT AND/OR LEGAL GUARDIAN: \_\_\_\_\_

### Section One – HGSA Participation

Did you participate in the Helena Girls Softball Association (e.g., player, coach, draft assistant, tournament volunteer)?

YES

NO

If yes, what years and how were you involved? Please list each year of participation with HGSA (player/coach/volunteer).

Are you planning to play Collegiate Softball in college? YES NO

### Section Two – Academic Achievement and Extracurricular Activities

Name of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

GPA (include transcript): \_\_\_\_\_

**All extracurricular activities and any academic awards you have received while in high school.**

*Please attach a list of all academic achievements and extracurricular activities, including employment, in which you have taken part during your high school years. This listing should indicate the name of the organization or group and the year(s) in which you participated. Include with this listing any or all awards, honors, or certificates of recognition you have received during your participation.*



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## **Section Three – Signed Letters of Recommendations**

- One (1) from your local HGSA adult volunteer or from an employer, community leader (such as a leader in your church, Girl Scout or Camp Fire Girls leader), or any of many youth organizations which you now belong or have participated in previously.
- One (1) from a teacher, counselor, or other administrator of your school.

## **Section Four – Essay**

Each applicant shall write an essay on the topic “The Value of Participation in HGSA Softball.” The essay should be written by the applicant, with no outside help or influence (which includes AI-generated text). Please type and limit to no more than two pages double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font.

\*Attach your essay on “The Value of Participation in HGSA” to your application form.

**DEADLINE: April 10, 2026 - Application must be postmarked no later than this date.**

**RETURN THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION  
TO:**

**“Bonnie Sue Heller Memorial Scholarship”  
% HGSA  
PO Box 5021  
Helena, MT 59604**