

THE WATER IS WIDE
PAT CONROY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION for
University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB)

***Sponsored by the Fripp Island Women's Club in
Association with the Pat Conroy Literary Center***

This scholarship is offered in honor of Pat Conroy, world-renowned author. One of Pat's earliest books, **The Water is Wide**, captured his passion for education as a teacher on Daufuskie Island, where the children lacked even the basic tools to learn. Pat believed in equality for everyone and was a strong advocate for education then and throughout his life.

This award is at least \$1000 and **intended for older adults** who may not have had the opportunity to continue their education. The college Bursar will distribute the award to cover tuition, books, supplies, uniform, or other educational expenses before Spring, 2026 begins.

Eligibility: Any student currently enrolled at University of South Carolina (USCB) seeking a degree and:

- is 21 years or older.
- a resident of Beaufort County, South Carolina, **and** a United States Citizen
- has a GPA of 2.5 or higher and enrolled for Spring Semester, 2026

A. Personal Information:

Name: _____ Student ID #: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____ Zip Code) _____

Major: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

If applicable, earlier college/technical school enrollment:

Institution: _____ Program: _____

Anticipated Expenses: Tuition \$_____ Books \$_____ Supplies/Fees\$_____

Employment/Volunteer History:

Business/Organization Name: _____ Address: _____

Length of Employment or Service: _____

- I authorize the verification that my GPA is 2.5 or greater and enrolled for Spring 2026.
- I certify I that I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Beaufort County, SC. and that my information is true and complete.

Signature

Date

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B. Please attach two letters of recommendation from employers, educators, service directors, or persons not related to the applicant.

C. Essay: Pat Conroy's book, ***The Water is Wide***, showed how education is a means to opportunity. Please explain how this award will offer you opportunities to further your education and future by obtaining a degree or technical certificate. (Please use a separate sheet, 250 words maximum.)

D. Complete: Authorization to release information to FIWC

Please sign the attached form and return it to: mlurry@USCB.edu

(FIWC will only verify that the student has GPA 2.5 or higher and is enrolled for at least 6 hrs.

or more for Spring Semester, 2026. Awards will be distributed at the beginning of Spring, 2026.)

E. Send: the following by November 15, 2025 (deadline)

- 1) Application
- 2) Essay
- 3) Two letters of recommendation

TO: Anne Hoyle
5 Pelican Cove
Fripp Island, SC 29920

The Fripp Island Women's Club (FIWC) does not discriminate in educational, or employment opportunities or decisions based on personal characteristics that are not relevant to an individual's abilities, qualifications, or job performance. Under federal and state law, these characteristics include age, race, color, sex, gender, religion, national origin, genetics, veterans' status, and disability status. It is the policy of FIWC that an individual's sexual orientation be treated in the same manner.