



DARE TO SOAR

WRITING CONTEST

APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2026!





Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work as a pilot, air traffic controller or even an aircraft technician? Although there are billions of people in the world working in all sorts of jobs and industries, you might only know about the jobs held by the people you come in contact with in your daily life. The US Department of Transportation has thousands of science-, technology-, education-, and mathematics-related careers for you!

We invite you to explore more about the field of transportation through the Transportation Federal Credit Union Dare to Soar Writing Contest. One lucky winner will receive the grand prize of \$500 and two runner-ups will receive \$250! Plus, winners will receive a \$100 donation to their school or organization.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Scholarship applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Applicant must be between the ages of 11 to 13 years old.
- **Must apply for membership or be a member of the credit union. [TransFCU.org/More](https://www.transfcu.org/more)**
- Entries must be 600-800 words typed and include a visual art piece sent as a JPEG, EPG, or a physical version. All applications should have both pieces together with their entry.
- Completed applications must be emailed to Marketing@TransFCU.org or mailed to Transportation Federal Credit Union, Attn: Dare to Soar Committee, PO Box 25947, Alexandria, VA 22313-9809 and postmarked by April 15, 2026.

Contest winners will be announced in May and invited to the Transportation Federal Credit Union Annual Meeting in Alexandria, VA.

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Student Name		
School Currently Attending		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Teacher, Guidance Counselor or Program Director Name		Phone Number
Program Study (ex: Math, Science, etc.)		



II. ESSAY PROMPT

Please read the following prompt. Submit a response to the prompt in 2 methods:

- 1) An original, typed and double-spaced essay piece in 600-800 words. Please note the word count at the end of the essay.
- 2) Visual art piece that describes the essay and has been produced via paint, oils, crayons, or pencil/pen. Must email/send a jpeg, eps, or send physical version with application.

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Think about each of these subjects and choose the one you enjoy the most. Write a short essay explaining which STEM subject is your favorite and why. You can talk about what makes it fun, what you've learned, and how you might use it in the future.

Then, draw a picture of yourself using that subject in real life — like doing an experiment, building something, solving a problem, or using cool technology!

III. AFFIDAVIT

Transportation Federal Credit Union's Scholarship Committee reserves the right to select the recipients of the scholarship program based on the criteria set forth in the scholarship program description. If selected as a recipient, by signing below, applicant authorizes release of information regarding essays, name, and images of recipient in media and marketing materials for publicity purposes. If the recipient is under eighteen years of age, the signature of legal parent or guardian of applicant is required below as consent for release authorization on behalf of the applicant. I acknowledge that the information included in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

By signing, I affirm that this essay is the result of my own work and reflects my own ideas. I also agree to the eligibility requirements and that this application will become the property of Transportation Federal Credit Union and may be used. If I am declared the winner of this scholarship, I agree to the use of my essay, name and photo in credit union publications.

Applicant's Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(If applicant is under 18 years old)

Transportation Federal Credit Union was founded in 1939 to provide financial services to the transportation community. We welcome all active, retired, military personnel or contractors of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Department of Maritime Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Railroad Association, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as well as 100+ employer groups to open an account. Transportation Federal Credit Union employees, volunteers and their immediate family are not eligible to apply. Membership is encouraged but not required to apply. Certain restrictions apply. For complete rules and details visit www.TransFCU.org/Soar.