

Robert B. Coyle Scholarship 2026 Application Form

The Robert B. Coyle Scholarship program open to students 12 years old or older including undergraduate and university students, and also non-traditional learners. Those with an active interest in wildlife and natural history is encouraged to apply.

1. Save or download this application form from the website.
2. Select one of the following methods for submitting your application:
 - a. Depending on your computer and software, you may be able to enter your responses directly into the application. If so, please complete all sections, including the electronic signature, and save it as a .pdf file. Email the application to scholarship@atholbirdclub.org.
 - b. Alternatively, you may print the application form and submit your application by mail. If you choose this method, you should print your information neatly on the form. You may print your responses to the questions on one or two separate sheets to be attached to the form. Be sure to include your signature on the completed application.
3. Mail it to the following address: ABNC 100 Main Street Athol, MA 01331

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DIGITAL ENTRY:

1. Save this application form as a PDF to your computer (ideally a desktop or laptop).
2. Open Adobe Acrobat and double click the saved file to open.
3. You can enter your responses directly onto the application.
4. Complete all sections including the electronic signature. Note: you may need to reopen the file to complete the second signature.
5. Save completed PDF form and email application to the address listed on page 4.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

Your application must be supported by two letters of recommendation from adults who know your commitment to birding and/or natural history (e.g., teacher, mentor, nature center director). Choose references that are knowledgeable about your interest in and experience with birds, other wildlife, and/or nature studies. The letters should not be included with the application. **Please ask your recommenders to send their recommendation directly to the email address: scholarship@atholbirdclub.org.**

Subject line for application: **[Name of applicant] - ABNC scholarship application 2026**

Subject line for references: **[Name of applicant] - ABNC scholarship recommendation 2026**

All components of the application and recommendations must be received by midnight, March 17th, 2026.

The announcement of the scholarship awards will be made by April 15th, 2026.

YOUR INFORMATION:

First and Last Name:		
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip code:
Email Address:		
Date of birth:	Age as of June 1st, 2026:	Gender:
Are you an ABNC member? (can be individual or family)		
How did you learn about the ABNC scholarship?		
Name(s) of Parent or Legal Guardian:		
Address(es) of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s), if different from yours:		
School Name:		
School City and State:		

Please provide information on the course, camp, or experience that you are interested in attending:

Name of organization:		
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip code:
Business Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Email Address:		
Specific program title:		
Date(s) of program:		

Program Expenses: Please indicate the cost of all the following that apply:

Tuition or Registration Fee:	Lodging Costs:
Meal Plan:	Any other required expense:
Total cost of the experience:	

(The "Any other" addition may not be needed, but potential needs may be a ferry ticket, a piece of equipment, etc.)

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS:

1. Which features of the program most appeal to you? (maximum of 175 words)

2. How would this program benefit you? (maximum of 175 words)

3. Please describe something that you have done that has given you a sense of accomplishment or pride. It may be nature-related or any other activity of your choice. (maximum of 175 words)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Please provide a personal statement, in up to 750 words, telling us about the importance of natural history in your life, your experiences as a naturalist/birder (e.g. Christmas Bird Counts, conservation projects, travel, independent birding), and nature-related activities you most enjoy (e.g. drawing, photography, data collection, teaching). Please include any involvement in any Athol Bird and Nature Club activities.

SIGNATURES:

By signing this application, I understand that the ABNC scholarship will cover the program tuition/fees, to be paid directly by the ABNC to the accepted program. I understand that, if I am awarded a scholarship, I will share my experiences with the ABNC membership.

Your signature and date

Your parent's/guardian signature and date