



## 2025 Town of Cottage City Scholarship Application

The application must be submitted by Wednesday, August 20, 2025, no later than 4:30 PM.

Who is Eligible? Any resident of the Town of Cottage City who has completed high school and is planning to continue their education, in a junior college, college, technical / trade school, or graduate school.

### Resident Information

**First Name \***

Alison

**Last Name \***

Nahuacatl

**MI**

**Address 1 \***

**City \***

**State \***

**Zip Code \***

**Phone \***

**Email Address \***

**Date of Birth \***



# Academic Records

## High School \*

Eleanor Roosevelt High School

## Name the College or Institution that you wish to attend and degree expectations. \*

University of Maryland (College Park)

1st Bachelors Degree

## What is your field or specialization of study? \*

Business Studies

## Career Plans: \*

1. Graduate: Business degree in hand.
2. Entry-Level Job: Get a job in operations or supply chain.
3. Gain Experience: Learn the ropes and build skills.
4. Advance: Move up to higher-level roles over time.

## Extra-Curricular Activities: \*

Drumming Band (Banda De Guerra): Performed at Hispanic Heritage Festivals and Mexican Independence Day events. Practiced and performed traditional Mexican drumming songs. Played drums for a dancing group in a D.C. parade.

## Community Service, Civic Organizations Service, and Awards: \*

Cottage City Police Department Volunteer:  
Assisted in Food Banks for the Community  
Helped organize community events like anniversaries and Halloween trunk or treats, wrapped presents, and distributed them to the community.

## Work Experience: \*

Joe's Movement Emporium - Creative Works Internship  
Created Graphic Design Media, such as posters, Photoshop, Websites, Logos, and Flyers.  
Produced, Filmed, Directed, and Edited different Filmography and Photography.

## Special Circumstances or financial need that requires the student pursue a scholarship. \*

- \* Low family income
- \* Single-parent household
- \* First-generation college student
- \* Attending a high-cost program or institution

**Essay Question: Why I should consider a career in municipal government? Upload your essay once completed. \***

Choose File

[ALISON\\_ESSAY.pdf](#) (70 KB)

**Official Transcripts of scholastic record(s) (Upload your transcripts) \***

Choose File

[CamScanner\\_8-15-25\\_18.10\\_1.JPG](#) (1.47 MB)

I certify that the information given in this application is true and accurate.

**Signature: \***



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[clear](#)

**Date: \***

08/15/2025



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**Alison Nahuacatl**

**August 2025**

**Town of Cottage City Scholarship Application**

### **Municipal Government Essay**

The meaning of life. A subject no human can fully come to terms with.

The meaning is not fully understood, and those who have written on it often find themselves debating others with their own interpretations. Everyone in existence is at a different point in their lives, whether they're getting married, starting college, learning how to walk, or even saying their final goodbyes.

With so many lives unfolding in so many ways, it's impossible for everyone to agree on one "purpose." But what we do share is the desire for meaning, which often arises in times of uncertainty or change. Change is created by life's events, and uncertainty usually appears during moments that impact us. Like adversity. These can be painful experiences that shift our view of the world, force us to grow up, or break parts of us that once felt untouched. It's during these moments that people often feel alone, confused, and deeply misunderstood. These are the times when we need others the most. As we move through life, not everyone is in the same place. Some are struggling, while others are thriving. But those who are in a good place have the power to help those who are not. That's where community comes in.

Where we live becomes more than just shelter; it becomes part of a community. These communities then have the power to shape lives. They offer safety, connection, and support, which can be crucial, especially during times of need. Understanding people's struggles and offering a helping hand can create real change. That's where the municipal government comes in. A career in municipal government means helping manage and strengthen communities on a local level and where help is most direct and personal.

This can be seen in public safety. Like in the role of police officers. Having people you can count on in moments of distress, or simply knowing there are systems in place to keep your community safe, builds trust and peace of mind. This sense of security and support can open up someone's life in ways they didn't expect. It brings people together, sparks new connections, and makes communities stronger. And for some, it can even restore hope.

These claims don't just arise from research but rather my experiences. In 2020, I moved to a new town. My previous neighborhood didn't feel safe or welcoming. People kept to themselves or argued over small things. I didn't feel comfortable stepping outside or getting involved. But my new town was completely different. There was a sense of energy, opportunity, and involvement. I noticed community events being organized, and I began to appreciate the effort behind them. The work of the municipal government, the organization, and the care. It became something I really admired. That same year, during the pandemic, I got involved with my local police department by joining the Explorers program. Together with the team, I helped organize and support community events like delivering holiday gifts, decorating for Halloween, and setting up food bank boxes every two weeks. These weren't just tasks but rather moments of connection. I saw how small acts of service could lift someone's day or ease a family's struggle. And I saw firsthand the impact of a government that truly works for its people.

Being involved gave me something more than volunteer hours. It gave me a sense of purpose. I felt safe, seen, and connected. It reminded me that helping even one person can make a difference. The meaning of life isn't something we need to define perfectly. Maybe it's about how we show up for others. How we build each other up. How we support our communities. That's why considering a career in municipal government is something to be held for consideration. My town's leaders helped create change for me and allowed me to be part of it.

Explore opportunities in community governance. To become part of the change, someone's helping hand and assist in shaping the future with a stronger community.