

THE GENE DOYLE ADVENTURE SCHOLARSHIP

2026 APPLICATION



The excitement of daily living,
The challenge of a wild adventure,
A love for the land and sea, people and animals,
A keen awareness of one's surroundings,
The pure joy of the great outdoors,
Of laughing and learning —

**This is the spirit of Gene Doyle
and
the reason for the Gene Doyle Adventure Scholarship**

Traditional scholarships offer money toward general college tuition or studies in a particular field, but this scholarship is designed to be as untraditional and unique as was Gene himself. Collier County high school juniors, seniors or college freshmen with a genuine smile, a sense of adventure and a dream for a living, learning experience may apply.

Simply put, it is the goal of the Gene Doyle Memorial Foundation to keep Gene's spirit alive by cultivating and supporting kindred spirits who share his love of life and nature. You are encouraged to explore the many adventures offered by the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), Outward Bound, and the Alaska Mountaineering School. The Memorial Foundation will provide finances to support the scholarship recipients in their chosen quest.

As you apply, express your zest for life, your exuberant outlook, your dreams and your passion for adventure. Let us read the smile on your face and the joy in your heart, for it is in this spirit that we offer this opportunity.

GENE DOYLE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

*Newgate Center
5150 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 303
Naples, Florida 34103
239.450.4018 Telephone*

2026 Scholarship Selection Committee Chair: Brad Marshall



THE GENE DOYLE ADVENTURE SCHOLARSHIP

Eligibility

Collier County residents in their Junior or Senior year of high school or college freshmen (Collier County graduates) between the ages of 16 and 21 at the date of application are eligible to apply for the adventure scholarship. All applicants must be Collier County residents who are avid dreamers with a taste for high adventure that inspires those around them.

Program Descriptions

The Gene Doyle Memorial Foundation has identified three adventure schools which offer a multitude of exciting programs throughout the country and around the world. As these programs vary widely in location, activity types and cost, review the available courses and expeditions carefully.

National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)

"The wilderness itself teaches lessons that you will learn well." Live in a small, self-contained expeditionary community while learning wilderness skills, natural history and leadership. Choose from courses on five continents.

For more information visit the website: www.nols.edu

Outward Bound Wilderness

True backcountry expeditions that require each individual's active involvement. Instructors inform, inspire and then step back. You will lead, follow, set up camp and use technical and safety systems.

For more information visit the website: www.outwardbound.org

Alaska Mountaineering School

Tread lightly through the vast Alaska Range with accomplished mountain climbers. This school teaches technical climbing skills, safety, leadership, and wilderness appreciation from the base camp in Talkeetna, Alaska. AMS also offers wilderness courses.

For more information visit the website: www.climbalaska.org

Scholarship Award

This year, the Gene Doyle Adventure Scholarship will award three scholarships of up to \$4,500 for registration and tuition, and up to \$1,000 for airfare and equipment (maximum of \$5,500). NOLS, Outward Bound, and Alaska Mountaineering School offer opportunities that fall within this limit. Applicants are advised to research the cost of travel to and from destinations, as well as the cost of purchasing or renting any necessary equipment. If the cost of registration, tuition, airfare and equipment exceeds the scholarship limits, you are expected to indicate how you will fund the additional cost.

Dates and Deadlines

Applications Due Thursday, March 12, 2026

Finalist Interviews tba

Scholarship Winners Announced tba

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2026 GENE DOYLE ADVENTURE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



I. Complete the following personal information.

Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

School: _____ Year: Jr _____ Sr _____ College Freshman _____

II. Two letters of recommendation must be submitted with your application or sent by the application due date to the address on the front page, or submitted electronically to krisdoyle@comcast.net. A teacher or school administrator who is **familiar with your spirit of adventure** and character should write one letter. The other letter can be from anyone who knows you personally (*except parents or grandparents*) and can **comment on your spirit of adventure**, e.g. a coach, teammate, sibling, friend, employer, etc. **Applicants should provide a copy of pages one and two of this packet to each person writing a recommendation so they will understand the nature of the scholarship.**

Name two individuals writing letters of recommendation:

1. _____ Department: _____
2. _____ Relationship: _____

III. Complete all information for the Adventure Program you select.

_____ a. NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL: Program Title _____

OR

_____ b. OUTWARD BOUND: Program Title _____

OR

_____ c. ALASKA MOUNTANEERING SCHOOL: Program Title: _____

Location: _____ Duration: _____

Registration & Tuition: _____ Airfare cost: _____

Equipment cost: _____ Program Dates: _____

How will you fund additional cost? _____

IV. Describe the adventure program you selected and your reasons for the selection. Be sure to explain:

- a) how this adventure will challenge you;
- b) what you expect to learn; and
- c) what goals this adventure will help you achieve.

GENE DOYLE ADVENTURE SCHOLARSHIP
2026 APPLICANT INFORMATION



V. **Personal Statement.**

Tell us about your best adventure, real or imagined, in at least 100 words. Please use a separate sheet of paper, type, and don't forget to put your name at the top.

VI. Tell us about yourself by filling in the spaces below: (no attachments please)

Hobbies and Interests:

Community Service/Volunteer Activities:

School Activities:

Athletic Activities:

Work Experience:

Awards and Honors:

**Completed applications with attached statements and recommendations may be
submitted electronically to: krisdoyle@comcast.net**

***OR* submitted by Mail to:**

Scholarship Committee — Gene Doyle Memorial Foundation
Newgate Center, 5150 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 303, Naples, FL 34103

All applications must be received by (Thursday, March 12, 2026). Late applications cannot be considered.