



**Excellence in Equality Scholarship Program
2023-2024 Caldwell County Schools**

Student Award

Purpose: To recognize two (2) graduating seniors from Caldwell County Schools for their community contributions, including their inspiring leadership and active work in creating an inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students.

Eligibility: High School senior in one of the Caldwell County Area High Schools

Explanation of Award - the award is intended to recognize students who have:

- Promoted a welcoming and supportive student community.
- Exhibited a diverse and inclusive perspective in the classroom.
- Nurtured multi-cultural awareness in the classroom.
- Set the example for other students by being a model community citizen.

Criteria for selection - Demonstrate a consistent and positive leadership role in furthering an equitable and inclusive environment at Caldwell County Schools that also further advances awareness of the diversity of culture, experience and perspective in the community. The following considerations will be given to all nominations:

- Creates a welcoming and supportive climate through visibility, communication, and educational efforts.
- Exhibits behaviors that encourage equity and inclusion in support of all students in the classroom or community.
- Participates in discussions that help create understanding of diverse cultures, experiences and perspectives.
- Seen as a student leader by staff and students because of their actions and behaviors in the community and classroom.



Nomination Process

- Students can self nominate or be teacher-nominated
- Nominator provides a supportive statement that includes how the nominee has demonstrated each of the criteria
- Three additional letters of support are required, including one from a volunteer organization
- Nominations should include artifacts that demonstrate the accomplishments (e.g., photos, articles, classroom curriculum, project plans, etc.)
- Teacher's letter of recommendation and Principal approval

Award

- One \$2,500 Scholarship per student
- Superintendent Letter/Certificate
- Recognition from Google

Funding Distribution: Scholarships will be distributed through the Caldwell Education Foundation's Scholarship program. Students must use the funding towards continued education or certificate programs and must continue to bring excellence and inclusivity into their future endeavors!

Conditions

- Applications must be received by the Education Foundation no later than March 1, 2024.
- Recipients will be selected by the Education Foundation Scholarship Committee. The committee reserves the right to require interviews.
- Students must be in good academic standing to receive the scholarship.

About Google in North Carolina

Google has been proud to call Caldwell County home for over 15 years with their data center in Lenoir. Google has employees across North Carolina working in critical functions such as Google Cloud and the infrastructure that makes Google services like Search fast and reliable for users around the world. Google strives to be a great neighbor in the local community, and since 2006, has donated more than \$17 million to North Carolina nonprofits and organizations. In 2022, Google helped provide \$11.26 billion of [economic activity](#) for North Carolina businesses, nonprofits, publishers, creators and developers.