



Abby Furco Memorial Scholar

Samantha Neidhold

Virginia Beach, Virginia

Sponsor: CDR Carl D Neidhold

College: D'Youville University

2025-2026: Freshman

Major: Biology/Pre-Med-Radiology

Minor: Pharmacology

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Varsity Field Hockey
- Morgans Message
- Young Women's Leadership Club
- Princess Anne Middle School Field Hockey, Assistant Coach
- St John the Apostle Catholic Church-Altar Server
- Vault Fitness and Athletics, Team Member
- Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters, Shadow Dietician



I am so incredibly honored and grateful to receive the 2025 Wings Over America Scholarship award. My father, grandfather, and uncle were all Naval Aviators, and I feel privileged to be a recipient of this scholarship which shows the legacy of dedication and hard work that they have all taught me. The Navy's core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment have been instilled in me. Growing up in a military town and being surrounded by service members has and will continue to positively influence my future as a student athlete and medical professional. This scholarship will allow me to pursue my dreams of attending an out-of-state school while saving money to eventually attend medical school to become a Radiologist.

I would like to give special thanks to my father, whose lengthy career as a FA/18 Fighter Pilot in the US Navy has taught me what it is like to love your job and be a part of something bigger than yourself. He has inspired me to chase my dreams, no matter what they are, and most importantly to have fun while I do it. There isn't a day that goes by where I am not thankful for him and the many service men and women who have sacrificed so much for our country. I know that whatever I choose to do I have great support systems like Wings Over America to help me achieve success in the next chapter of my life.