VAW/VRC MEMORIAL AND MERIT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

VVOSA Merit Scholar

Shannon O'Connor

Carlisle, PA

Sponsor: CAPT Jeffery Gaydash

College: Penn State University

2026-2027: Sophomore

Major: Middle Education with a Minor in Spanish and Educational Policies

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Film Club
- National Honor Society
- Social Butterflies Children's Club Café



Receiving a 2027 scholarship would provide meaningful support as I work toward my academic and career goals. It would help reduce the financial pressure of college expenses, allowing me to focus more on my coursework and long-term plans rather than the cost of attending school.

Beyond the financial aspect, the scholarship represents an investment in my effort and progress. Throughout high school, I have learned the importance of discipline and consistency, especially after facing challenges that forced me to refocus on my academics. That experience shaped how I approach my responsibilities today, and this scholarship would reinforce that those efforts matter.

It would also connect me to a broader community of donors and recipients, which I value as someone who has grown up around service and commitment. I understand the importance of contributing to something larger than myself, and this opportunity will encourage me to continue working toward that goal. This scholarship will support both my education and my ability to stay focused on achieving my dreams career-wise.