



TWU Local 556

The Union of Southwest Airlines Flight Attendants

THE TWU LOCAL 556 ROBERT “TREBOR” MCDOWELL-ATKINS SCHOLARSHIP

The TWU Local 556 Robert “Trebor” McDowell-Akins Scholarship was established to honor the contributions of TWU Local 556 Member and Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team Member Robert “Trebor” McDowell-Akins. Trebor was hired by Southwest Airlines in October 2000. He served on the TWU Local 556 CISM team for over 10 years and had a passion for helping others cope with traumatic personal and work-related events. He volunteered countless hours to the Membership, providing resources and assistance to those in need. Trebor’s favorite quote was, “It’s ok to not be ok.”

Trebor passed away from cancer at his home in Nashville on January 29, 2017. The Robert “Trebor” McDowell-Akins Scholarship was established to honor Trebor’s memory by providing a scholarship to a TWU Local 556 Member or family member of a TWU Local 556 Member to pursue a degree in the mental health field.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Supports TWU Local 556 Members or family members of TWU Local 556 Members (family members include: dependent children, grandchildren, committed partners, and spouses).
- Applicant must be a high school senior or current college student.
- One Scholarship per year will be awarded, and funds will be paid directly to the college or university after acceptance and registration of the applicant.
- Each Scholarship has a maximum value of \$2,500 per recipient. The award can be used for tuition, books, room, and board.
- Selection is based on the applicant’s capacity toward serving others; **special consideration will be given to applicants who wish to pursue a degree in the mental health field.**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Scholarship application and essays **must be submitted by June 22, 2026**. Applications will be judged and awarded by the TWU Local 556 Scholarship Committee, consisting of the TWU Local 556 President or appointed representative, the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, and one individual from the academic or labor communities. **Awards will be announced by the end of August 2026**. Notice of the winners may be published in Union communications, including social media.

For questions regarding scholarships offered by the TWU Local 556 Scholarship Committee, please email: scholarships@twu556.org.