

Central Community College currently uses the AwardSpring platform for managing online scholarship applications, including submission, review, and awarding. The contract with AwardSpring will expire in November 2026. The Financial Aid Office and the CCC Foundation have decided to explore alternative scholarship management platforms due to several ongoing challenges.

The challenges on the current platform include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Allows only one scholarship application to be active at a time. As a result, CCC cannot run a separate spring scholarship cycle while the following year's application is already live.
- Application updates can only occur once all application and review cycles are fully complete. CCC offers multiple scholarship cycles with short windows between each cycle; the current system does not allow for adequate editing and testing to be completed.
- Limited flexibility with regard to question design and skip-logic functionality. Due to these restrictions, CCC must use a supplemental application for specific scholarships, such as the Scotts Pathway Scholarship.

A five-member review team of college and foundation staff evaluated submissions based upon two key criteria: RFP Response and Financial Considerations.

The results of this review are as follows:

Vendor Names	<i>AwardSpring*</i>	<i>Awarded</i>	<i>Blackbaud</i>	<i>NextGen</i>	<i>Regent</i>
RFP Scores	403.2	438.4	428.6	441.4	370.8
Costs (5-year contract)	\$53,990	\$153,500	\$96,120	\$74,000	\$241,850
Rankings per Team	3rd	4th	2nd	1st	5th

*AwardSpring is our current system and thus does not require a setup fee.

The team determined that **NextGen** offers the best overall experience in terms of platform functionality, user interface, and vendor expertise. NextGen provides critical capabilities, including support for multiple active scholarship applications and multi-year application structures, which are essential for CCC's future scholarship management needs.

The College President recommends awarding the scholarship platform contract to **NextGen**. This selection aligns with CCC's goals of improving efficiency, enhancing the user experience, and supporting continuous access to scholarship for students throughout the academic year.