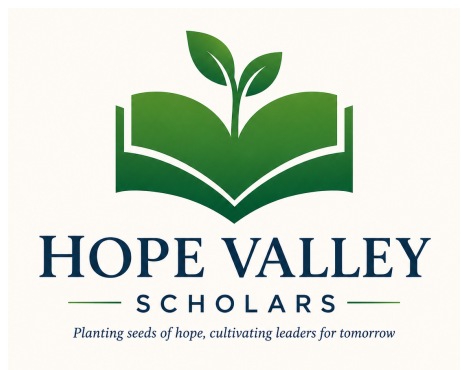




HOPE VALLEY SCHOLARS INC.

Privacy Policy

Clear information practices for scholars, families, donors, applicants, volunteers and visitors.

This policy explains what personal information Hope Valley Scholars collects, why it uses the information, who may receive it, how it is protected and the choices available to donors, applicants, scholars, families, volunteers, mentors and website visitors.

OUR COMMITMENT: Hope Valley Scholars applies this document to the programs, people and activities within its scope. Questions or requests for an accessible copy may be sent to the contact information below.

Version	1.0
Policy owner	Board-designated Privacy Owner
Effective date	01/01/2026
Review cycle	Annual
Website address	https://www.hopevalleyscholars.org/Documents/pdf/Hope%20Valley%20Scholars%20Privacy%20Policy.pdf

Organization: Hope Valley Scholars Inc. | U.S. 501(c)(3) public charity | EIN 41-2924425

Contact: info@hopevalleyscholars.org | +1 (302) 898-6006 | <https://www.hopevalleyscholars.org>

1. Scope and contact

This Privacy Policy applies to personal information handled by Hope Valley Scholars Inc. through <https://www.hopevalleyscholars.org>, donation services, scholarship and volunteer applications, mentoring, email, events, partner referrals and other organizational activities. It does not control an independent third party's practices.

Privacy questions and requests: info@hopevalleyscholars.org | +1 (302) 898-6006. Requests will be routed to the person responsible for privacy administration.

2. Information we may collect

Context	Examples of information
Website and inquiries	Name, email, phone, message, device/browser data, approximate location, cookies, pages visited and security logs.
Donations	Donor identity, contact details, amount, date, designation, receipt and limited transaction references. Payment providers process card or bank credentials; Hope Valley Scholars should not store full payment credentials.
Scholarships and programs	Identity and contact details, age, school, grades, goals, household and financial-need information, references, fee statements, admissions documents, attendance, mentorship and progress records.
Volunteers and mentors	Application, qualifications, availability, references, conflicts, training, conduct, screening status and service records. Sensitive screening details are collected separately through an authorized secure process.
Media and events	Images, video, audio, quotes, stories, consent choices, attendance and accessibility needs.
Governance and partners	Board, officer, vendor, school and partner contacts; contracts; conflicts; due diligence; financial and compliance records.

Hope Valley Scholars does not ask applicants to submit Social Security numbers, full payment credentials, passwords, police certificates, passport images or background-check reports through ordinary public forms unless a separate secure, lawful process is clearly identified.

3. How and why information is used

- Respond to inquiries and communicate about programs, applications, donations, events and service.
- Assess scholarship, volunteer, mentor, partner and employment eligibility; verify information; arrange interviews; make and administer decisions.
- Deliver education, mentorship, leadership, safeguarding and support activities; monitor progress and program quality.
- Process and acknowledge donations, manage restricted gifts, refunds, accounting, audit and tax obligations.
- Protect scholars and others; prevent fraud or misuse; investigate concerns; enforce policies; meet legal and regulatory duties.
- Publish approved impact communications under valid media consent and responsible-storytelling rules.
- Operate, secure, troubleshoot and improve the website and organizational systems.

Depending on the context and applicable law, processing may be based on consent, steps requested before a relationship, performance of an agreement, compliance with law, protection of vital interests,

public or charitable tasks, or legitimate organizational interests that do not override individual rights. Consent may be withdrawn for future processing where consent is the basis.

4. Children, scholars and sensitive information

Hope Valley Scholars works with minors and treats student, family, financial-need, safeguarding and precise-location information as sensitive. It seeks parent or guardian permission and scholar assent where appropriate, limits access, avoids unnecessary public identification and uses codes or anonymized accounts when practical.

A safeguarding report may be shared without consent when reasonably necessary to protect a person, comply with mandatory reporting or respond to lawful authorities. Hope Valley Scholars will not use a child's information for behavioral advertising.

5. Cookies and online services

The website may use essential cookies, security tools, accessibility functions and limited analytics. A documented cookie inventory and appropriate consent mechanism must be implemented before nonessential tracking is enabled where consent is required. Visitors can adjust browser controls, but blocking essential technology may affect functionality.

Online forms should use visible labels, encrypted transport, role-based access, malware scanning for uploads and secure storage outside the public web directory. Completed application contents and attachments should not be sent through ordinary email.

6. When information may be shared

- Authorized Board members, staff, volunteers or mentors who need the information for their approved duties.
- Schools, program partners and service providers under appropriate instructions and confidentiality, security and safeguarding controls.
- Payment, banking, accounting, email, hosting, form, security and analytics providers that process information for organizational purposes.
- Police, child-protection, courts, regulators, auditors, insurers or professional advisers when required or reasonably necessary for safety, legal compliance or organizational rights.
- A successor or restructuring participant, subject to lawful safeguards and continued charitable-purpose restrictions.

NO SALE: Hope Valley Scholars does not sell or rent personal information. It does not trade donor or scholar lists for another organization's marketing use.

7. International and partner processing

Hope Valley Scholars operates across the United States and Kenya and may use service providers in other countries. Before transferring restricted or sensitive information, it should assess necessity, access, security, contractual protection and applicable cross-border requirements. Partners receive only the minimum information needed for the approved purpose.

8. Security and incident response

- Use least-privilege access, strong authentication, encrypted transport, secure backups, patching, audit logs and role-based training appropriate to the risk.
- Separate safeguarding and background-screening records from routine program files and restrict exports.
- Require providers and partners to report suspected incidents promptly and support investigation and notification.
- Assess a suspected breach, contain harm, preserve evidence and notify affected people or regulators when required by applicable law.

No system is completely secure. Hope Valley Scholars therefore combines preventive controls with prompt response and periodic review.

9. Retention and disposal

Information is retained only as long as reasonably necessary for the stated purpose, safeguarding, scholarship or service administration, donor and tax records, contracts, disputes, legal holds and applicable law. The Board must approve a records-retention schedule that identifies owners, minimum and maximum periods and secure destruction methods. Convenience alone is not a reason to retain sensitive information indefinitely.

10. Individual choices and rights

Subject to applicable law and reasonable identity verification, a person may ask Hope Valley Scholars to provide information about processing; access or correct personal information; delete or restrict information; object to certain use; withdraw consent; opt out of nonessential communications; or receive portable information where required. Some information may be retained or withheld to protect a child, another person's rights, confidential references, legal obligations, investigations or legal claims.

A request should identify the person, the relationship with Hope Valley Scholars and the action requested. Do not email copies of identity documents unless the organization provides a secure method. Hope Valley Scholars will respond within the period required by applicable law and explain any lawful limitation.

11. External links and policy changes

External websites, social networks and payment platforms have their own privacy terms. Hope Valley Scholars will post a revised effective date when this policy changes materially and will provide additional notice when required. A material change will not retroactively expand media consent.

12. Complaints

Raise a privacy concern first at info@hopevalleyscholars.org so the organization can investigate and respond. This does not limit any right to contact the Kenya Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, a U.S. regulator or another competent authority.

Document control: The current public version is maintained by Hope Valley Scholars Inc.; printed or downloaded copies may become outdated. **Related:** [Child Safeguarding and Protection Policy](#) | [Photo and Media Consent Form](#) | [Terms of Use](#).

Version 1.0 | Effective 01/01/2026 | Next scheduled review: 01/01/2027.