



Privacy Policy

Data Protection & Confidentiality

EFFECTIVE DATE: MARCH 15, 2026

1. Purpose

Scholars Without Borders (“SWB”, “the Organization”, “we”, “our”, or “us”) is committed to protecting the privacy, confidentiality, and security of personal information entrusted to us by donors, beneficiaries, volunteers, employees, partners, and website users.

This Privacy Policy outlines how Scholars Without Borders collects, uses, stores, protects, and shares personal information in connection with its charitable activities, fundraising efforts, educational programs, and digital services.

The organization recognizes that maintaining donor and stakeholder trust requires responsible data stewardship and compliance with applicable laws and ethical standards.

2. Scope

Data Collection Channels

This policy applies to all personal data collected by Scholars Without Borders through:

-  Donors and fundraising activities
-  Program participation and beneficiary services
-  Volunteer or employment applications
-  Event registration
-  Website interactions
-  Communications with the organization
-  Third-party fundraising platforms and payment processors

Affected Individuals

This policy applies to all individuals who interact with SWB, including:

-  Donors and supporters
-  Beneficiaries and program participants
-  Volunteers and interns
-  Employees and consultants
-  Website visitors
-  Partner organizations and vendors

3. Legal and Ethical Framework

Scholars Without Borders operates primarily in the United States and adheres to applicable privacy and consumer protection laws. While not limited to these frameworks, the organization strives to follow best practices derived from:

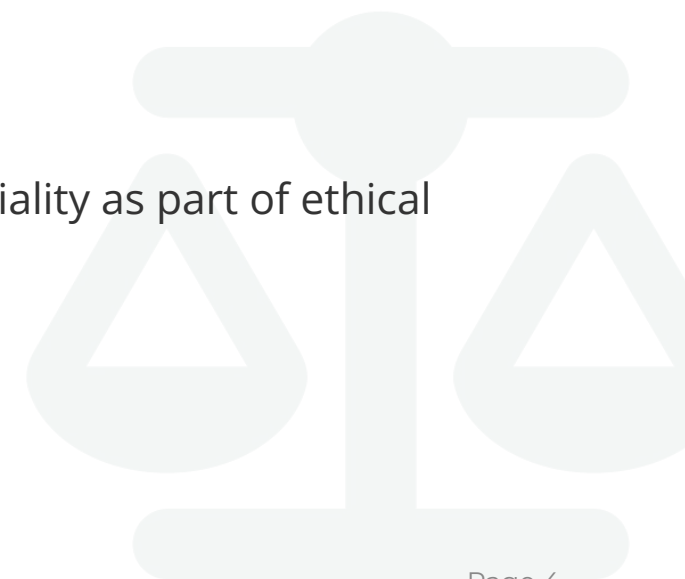
- U.S. Federal Trade Commission data protection guidance

- State privacy laws where applicable

- Nonprofit accountability standards

- Ethical donor privacy practices recommended by nonprofit governance bodies

The organization also recognizes the importance of maintaining donor confidentiality as part of ethical nonprofit stewardship.



4. Types of Information Collected

SWB collects information necessary to operate its programs, maintain relationships with supporters, and comply with legal requirements.

4.1 Personal Identification Information

Personal data that may be collected includes:

Full name

Mailing address

Email address

Telephone number

Organizational affiliation (if applicable)



We only collect information that is necessary for our stated purposes.

4.2 Donation and Financial Information

When individuals make contributions to the organization, SWB may collect:

Donation amount and date

Donation frequency (e.g., one-time or recurring)

Payment method details processed through secure third-party providers

Donation designations or preferences

Tax receipt information

- SWB does not store full credit card numbers. Payment processing is conducted through secure, PCI-compliant payment providers.

4. Types of Information Collected (Continued)

4.3 Program Participation Information

In order to administer educational or humanitarian programs, SWB may collect limited information related to program participants, such as:

Contact details

Program eligibility information

Application information

Participation history

4.4 Technical and Website Information

When individuals visit the SWB website, certain technical information may be collected automatically, including:

Internet Protocol (IP) address

Device type

Pages visited and time spent

Browser type and operating system

Website usage data

This information is used primarily for analytics and improving user experience.

5. Methods of Information Collection

Information may be collected through several channels including:



Online donation forms



Email communications



Volunteer applications



Third-party fundraising platforms



Website registration forms



Event sign-ups



Phone conversations



Social media engagement

Information may also be provided voluntarily by individuals during interactions with the organization.

6. Use of Personal Information

Scholars Without Borders uses collected information for legitimate organizational purposes, including:

6.1 Donor Relations

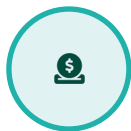
Processing donations and issuing tax receipts

Maintaining accurate donor records for historical reporting

Communicating impact updates on funded projects

Recognizing supporters in annual reports (where consent is given)

Donor Stewardship Cycle



Processing



Receipting



Communicating



Recognizing

6. Use of Personal Information

Overview of how we utilize data for communications and program delivery.

6.2 Organizational Communications

Sending newsletters or updates regarding our mission and impact

Informing stakeholders about new programs and strategic initiatives

Responding to inquiries, feedback, and information requests

6.3 Program Administration

Managing beneficiary support programs and service delivery

Administering educational initiatives and scholarship tracking

Coordinating volunteers and program participants effectively

6. Use of Personal Information

We utilize data to enhance our operational efficiency and ensure full legal compliance.

6.4 Operational Improvements

Analyzing website performance and user engagement metrics

Improving communications, services, and digital experiences

Monitoring fundraising effectiveness to optimize impact

6.5 Legal and Compliance Obligations

Maintaining accurate financial and tax records for auditing

Meeting regulatory reporting requirements (e.g., IRS 990)

Preventing fraud, money laundering, or misuse of charitable funds

7. Data Sharing and Third Parties

Scholars Without Borders does not sell, rent, or trade personal information.

However, the organization may share information with trusted third-party service providers who assist in operational functions such as:

- Payment processing
- Email communication services
- Event management platforms
- Donor management software
- Website analytics

All service providers are expected to maintain strict confidentiality and use data solely for authorized purposes.

Information may also be disclosed if required by law, court order, or regulatory authority.

8. Donor Privacy

The organization recognizes the importance of donor confidentiality and is committed to respecting the rights of our supporters.

Donors have the right to:



Remain anonymous



Request that their names not be publicly disclosed



Limit communications from the organization

Donor lists will not be sold or exchanged with other organizations.

9. Data Security

Scholars Without Borders maintains reasonable technical, administrative, and physical safeguards designed to protect personal information against unauthorized access, loss, or misuse.



Secure database systems



Password-protected systems



Restricted staff access



Encrypted payment systems



Staff training on confidentiality & data protection

"Despite these safeguards, no system can guarantee absolute security, and individuals should take care when transmitting sensitive information online."

10. Data Retention



SWB retains personal information only for as long as necessary to fulfill the purposes for which it was collected, including legal and financial reporting requirements.



Donor records may be retained for tax compliance and historical reporting purposes to ensure organizational accountability and transparency.

11. Individual Rights

Individuals whose personal information is held by SWB may request to:

- 👁 Access the information held about them
- ✍ Correct inaccurate information
- 👤 Update contact preferences
- 👤✕ Request removal from mailing lists

Requests will be reviewed and responded to within a reasonable timeframe.



12. Cookies and Online Tracking

The SWB website may use cookies or similar technologies to:

Analyze website traffic

Improve user experience

Understand visitor engagement

 *Users may disable cookies through their browser settings if they prefer.*

Additional Policy Provisions



13. Children's Privacy

SWB does not knowingly collect personal information from children under the age of 13 through its website without appropriate consent. If such information is identified, reasonable steps will be taken to remove it promptly.



14. Policy Updates

Scholars Without Borders may update this Privacy Policy periodically to reflect operational changes, legal requirements, or best practices. Updated versions will be published on the organization's website.



15. Contact Information

Questions regarding this policy may be directed to:

Scholars Without Borders

Email: info@swbrelief.org | Website: <https://swbrelief.org>