

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania

2024 Graduate Scholarship Award Rules

- 1. Three \$4,000.00 awards have been brought into existence to benefit present and hopefully, future members of the Order. The objective is to assist any deserving applicant in securing a Degree beyond the undergraduate (4 yrs.) college level. The Scholarship is based on financial need, scholarship, and leadership.**

- 2. Applicant or a living family relative must be a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania and enrolled in the graduate program at an accredited college/university..**

- 3. Applicant must complete all information requested on the application and**
 - a) Present three (3) written recommendations.....**
 - i. College/University faculty members(s), advisor(s), etc. and/or**
 - ii. Representative(s) of a community service organization**

Note: When contacting the individuals from whom you are requesting recommendation letters, please inform them that they may be contacted by a Scholarship Committee member for verification; therefore, please include their contact information as requested on your application.
 - b) Provide a transcript(s) indicating the completion of an under-graduate degree or the completion of at least four (4) years toward a degree requiring additional years.**
 - c) Submit copies of IRS W-2 forms of family and applicant and other financial aid, grants, scholarships, and awards which applicant has received or is presently receiving. (You do not have to submit supporting schedules of tax returns.)**
 - d) Attach any unusual family and/or personal circumstances that applicant feels may warrant attention in demonstrating the need for financial assistance to continue with your schooling.**

- 4. Applicant must be a graduate student and provide the name, address, and contact information of the college/university they are presently attending.**

- 5. Applicant agrees that the Award is to be applied toward tuition, the purchase of books/supplies, and/or room and board. Depending on the circumstances, an Awards check will be sent directly to the recipient's college /university, unless otherwise agreed upon.**

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6. Applicant has earned an overall academic record of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale on his/her most recent transcript.

7. Applicant should be an active participant in his/her community and church related functions.

8. Applicant shall present a typed/printed essay of at least 500 words on “Why I may consider becoming a member of the Odd Fellows and/or Rebekahs Association(s).”

9. Applicant must be willing to appear before the Association’s Board of Directors and/or the Scholarship Award Committee, if requested.

10. Applicant shall consent to have photographs taken of the award presentation with the committee and/or representatives of the IOOF.

11. Reapplication can be made the next school year if applicant is not successful in receiving the 2024 Scholarship Award.

12. Applications must be postmarked by November 30, 2024. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

13. The Graduate Scholarship Award Committee shall have the sole responsibility in selecting the Award recipient(s) based on the above guidelines.

Please submit an inexpensive recent picture of yourself which may be reproduced in the *Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine*. So, to prevent getting involved with copyright laws, please do not use a professional photographer.

Award recipients will be notified shortly after the Association's Board meeting in December 2024 and the results of the Scholarship Selection Committee will be submitted for publication in the January or February issue of the “*Pennsylvania Odd Fellow and Rebekah Magazine*.”

Please mail completed application and enclosures to:

Mr. Robert Grant
OF & RA of W PA Scholarship
40 Cypress Way
Charleroi, PA 15022-3331