

# **Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania**

## **2025 Graduate Scholarship Award Rules**

- 1. Three scholarship awards have been brought into existence to help present and future members of the Order. A maximum award of \$4,000 will be decided based on whether the applicant is full-time or part-time, as well as the number of credits completed and currently in progress. The goal is to help 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 two (2) written recommendations.....**
    - i. College/University faculty member(s), advisor(s), etc. and/or**
    - ii. Representative(s) of a community service organization**

**Note: When you contact the individuals from whom you are requesting recommendation letters, please let them know that they may be contacted by a Scholarship Committee member for verification, so please include their contact information as requested on your application.**
  - b) Provide a transcript(s) indicating the completion of an undergraduate 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 the family and the applicant and other financial aid, grants, scholarships, and awards that the 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 the applicant feels may warrant attention in showing the need for financial assistance to continue with their schooling.**
- 4. Applicant must be enrolled as a graduate student and provide the name, address, and contact information of the college/university they are presently attending.**
- 5. Applicant has earned an overall academic record of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale on their most recent transcript.**

6. 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.
7. Applicant should be an active participant in their community and church related functions.
8. Applicant shall present a typed/printed essay of at least 500 words on:  
"What makes you a unique and deserving candidate for this scholarship? Beyond academic achievements, describe a specific attribute, talent, or experience that sets you apart from others. How do your values and aspirations align with the mission of the Odd Fellows/Rebekahs organization, and how do you see yourself contributing to those values as a scholarship recipient?"
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 Association.
11. Reapplication can be made the next school year if the applicant is not successful in receiving the 2025 Scholarship Award.
12. Applications must be postmarked by November 15, 2025. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
13. The Graduate Scholarship Award Committee shall have the sole responsibility for 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 avoid potential copyright issues, please do not use a professional photographer.

Award recipients will be notified shortly after the Association's Board meeting in December 2025, 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 the completed application and enclosures to:

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