

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Association of Western Pennsylvania

2026 Scholarship Award Rules

1. Six scholarship awards have been established to support current and, hopefully, future members of the Order. Each award provides up to \$4,000 and is granted based on academic achievement, financial need, and leadership. Our goal is to help you pursue your dreams and earn a degree beyond high school.

2. To be eligible, the Applicant or a living family relative must be a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows or Rebekahs of Western Pennsylvania and attending full-time an accredited 2 or 4-year college/university or technical/trade school, for at least one full year.

3. Applicant must complete all information requested on the application and

a) Present two (2) written recommendations.....

i i. High school faculty member(s), and/or

j ii. College/University or Technical/Trade school faculty member(s), and/or

iii. 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.

b) Provide a transcript(s) (Official preferred) from the previous year(s) of college/university or technical/trade school attendance.

c) Submit copies of IRS W-2 forms of family and applicant and other financial aid, grants, scholarships, and awards that the applicant has received. (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 demonstrating the need for financial assistance to continue school.

4. Applicant must be considered a full-time college student who has completed at least one year at an accredited college or university, or a full-time student who has completed at least one year at an accredited technical or trade school, and provide the name and address of the institution they are presently attending.

4. (Note: CIHS and/or online credits will NOT be considered in determining the requirement for “at least one year” at a college/university or technical/trade school.)

(Over)

5. Applicant agrees that the Award is to be applied toward tuition, the

purchase of books/supplies, and/or room and board. An Awards check will be sent directly to the recipient's school of enrollment or, depending on circumstances, directly to the student.

5.
6. Applicant has earned an overall academic record of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

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6. 7. Applicant should be an active participant in their community and church-related functions.

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8. 8. Applicant shall present a typed/printed essay of at least 500 words on:

“What specific area of study or field are you most passionate about and why? Describe a defining moment or experience that solidified this passion. How will receiving this scholarship award enable you to delve deeper into your chosen field, and how do you envision using your knowledge and skills to make a positive impact in the future?”

(Please, no AI-generated response.)

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

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

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8 11. Reapplication can be made the next school year if the applicant is/is not successful in receiving the 2026 Scholarship Award.

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10 12. Applications must be postmarked on or before Saturday, June 27, 2026. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

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12 The Scholarship Award Committee shall have the sole responsibility for selecting the Award recipients based on the above guidelines. Award recipients will be notified shortly after the Association's Annual Meeting (July 18, 2026), and the results of the Scholarship Selection Committee will be submitted for publication in the September or October 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**