

First United Methodist Church Scholarship Guidelines

Belleville, Kansas

Application Deadline is March 15
Notification will be provided by May 1

FUMC scholarships will be awarded annually to prospective students. To qualify, the applicant must be a member of First United Methodist Church or affiliated with the Christian faith in some capacity and must be planning to enroll in an accredited post-secondary institution. Annual scholarships of \$2000 will be awarded at the sole discretion of the FUMC Scholarship Committee. Priority will be given to actively participating church members. Scholarship funds from the FUMC Endowment and from repayment of educational loans will be determining factors in the number of scholarships available.

Scholarships are not limited by age or date of graduation from high school, nor limited to current graduating high school seniors. Individuals attending or planning to attend junior colleges, four-year colleges and universities, vocational schools, and graduate programs may apply for FUMC scholarships. The scholarships will be given to the recipients at the beginning of each school year with proof of enrollment. Upon this proof, money may be mailed directly to the school designated by the recipient or paid directly to the recipient, whichever the recipient requests.

The Scholarship Committee will evaluate applications using the following criteria:

- Applicants must have a minimum 2.5 cumulative high school GPA or a minimum 2.5 cumulative post-secondary GPA.
- Applicants must be a member of FUMC or have an affiliation with the church or with the Christian faith.
- Applicants must demonstrate good citizenship and character and show potential for successful completion of their chosen educational path.
- Applicants must be enrolled or plan to enroll as a student at an accredited post-secondary institution.
- Applicants must submit a personal letter to the Scholarship Committee describing how the FUMC or their Christian faith has been meaningful in their lives AND describing their future educational and career goals.
- Applicants may choose to indicate financial need which may be considered in cases of other equal qualifications.

Recipients may apply for additional scholarships by the March 15 deadline. The annual application must be completed with current information and current transcripts. Applicants not receiving a scholarship one year may reapply by March 15 in subsequent years.

Scholarship applications and guidelines shall be available to applicants and interested parties in the church office and on the FUMC website. The Scholarship Program will be promoted in the FUMC newsletter, in church bulletins, and by any other means deemed appropriate by the Scholarship Committee.

The Scholarship Committee shall make its selection(s) by May 1. Scholarship recipients will be at the sole discretion of the Scholarship Committee. Letters will be sent to all applicants announcing the decision of the committee. Recipients will be recognized at a worship service in May. A Scholarship Committee member who is an immediate family member of any applicant (spouse, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, parent-in-law, grandparent-in-law) shall not participate in any aspect of the selection process that year.

The scholarships are intended to encourage and support higher education of church members and youth of Christian faith. According to availability of scholarship funds, the Scholarship Committee may change this policy to include additional years for a student to receive money or change the amount of money awarded to recipients.

Revised November 2021