

Shenandoah Presbytery College and University Grant Application

General Information

- All applications for scholarships for the upcoming academic year must be received in Presbytery's office by **June 1st** of each year in order to be considered. Should the College/University Scholarship Grants be approved, applicants will be notified of their application's status, and funds distributed by **August 1st** of each year. Applications for alternative terms of study not beginning in the Fall Semester will be considered on a rolling basis as an exception to this requirement. Scholarships are awarded for a specific academic year or term; new applications must be submitted for each future academic year to be considered.
- The Presbytery, on behalf of the Committee on Educational Resources, will send a memo or e-mail annually to churches regarding scholarship opportunities and post scholarship procedures on the Presbytery website (www.shenpres.org)
- Scholarships are a direct grant of aid to recipients and are intended to be used towards the student's educational costs. Please refer to your educational institution's financial aid practices regarding the report of external aid and report this grant accordingly.
- Recipients are encouraged to contribute to the scholarship fund at a future date so that assistance might be available for other students.

Applicants

- Applicants must be a member of a Presbyterian Church within the Shenandoah Presbytery.
- Applicants must be officially enrolled in an institution of higher learning.
- Applicants should address financial need in the appropriate section on the application form (Section IV).
- Previous and current demonstration of a life of faith (attendance and participation within a congregation) as well as vocational reflection will be considered and impact award decisions.
- Applicants should answer all questions to the best of their ability.
- *After* funds have been allocated, it is the applicant's responsibility:
 - To notify the Presbytery Office if there is a change in the applicant's approved request *before* the academic year begins (such as a change in enrollment status, full-time or part-time, etc.)
 - To refer to their educational institution's financial aid practices regarding the report of external aid and report this grant accordingly.

Session

- An "Endorsement of Session" form must be included with each applicant's packet (see attached). The student shall complete their part of this application and submit the *entire* application to the Session for endorsement. A letter from the pastor is not required but is encouraged.
- Following the Session endorsement of a student application, the Session should then submit the entire application to the Presbytery Office.

Sessions should submit applications to bookkeeper@shenpres.org *or*

Mail to: Shenandoah Presbytery
Funds Administrator – College Scholarship
Committee on Educational Resources
PO Box 1146
Harrisonburg, VA 22803

Application for Scholarship Grant

Section I: General Information (please print neatly or type)

1. Legal Name:

Preferred Name:

2. Home Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

3. Name and address of Educational Institution for the upcoming scholarship year:

4. Intended program of study or major:

5. Are you currently enrolled in this educational institution?

Yes No

If not, have you been accepted by this educational institution for the upcoming academic year?

Yes No

6. What will your class level be in the upcoming scholarship year? (Circle response)

First Year Sophomore Junior Senior Other (please specify):

Section II. Church Service

1. What church is your home church?
2. Have you completed a confirmation study?
3. Please list church activities in which you have participated:
4. What are some significant moments you have experienced in faith formation?
5. Do you attend worship and/or church activities on a regular basis?

Yes	No
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6. What personal spiritual discipline enhances your faith the most in this season of life? (Examples: prayer, worship, scripture, mission, stewardship, leadership, church or campus ministry such as UKirk <https://shenpres.org/college-ministries/>)
7. In his 1973 *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*, theologian Frederick Buechner reflects on *vocation*, or the work we are called to do by God. He states that “the kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work (a) that you need most to do and (b) that the world most needs to have done...” in other words, he continues, “the place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” Reflecting on vocation and God’s call, how might your Christian faith impact your vocation of choice?

Section III. Scholarship

Please give information on your current school – high school, college, or graduate school

1. Clubs and Organizations

2. Offices Held

3. Athletics

4. Other positions of community leadership

Section IV: Please provide below any additional information that you feel should be considered by the committee reviewing this request. The Committee on Educational Resources is committed to supporting the students of Shenandoah Presbytery financially and prayerfully: how can we pray for you during your educational journey?

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have read and understood the guidelines for making scholarship grants; that to the best of my knowledge, the above information is true and accurate. I also authorize the release of this information to any other members of the Committee on Educational Resources.

Signed:

Date:

After completing their part, the applicant should submit the application to the clerk of your Church Session for their endorsements. **The Session must send the entire completed form to Funds Administrator by June 1st.**

Section V: Endorsement of Session

Note to Applicant: A new Endorsement of Session form must be submitted to Presbytery's Office each time a student applies for a Shenandoah Presbytery College and University Grant.

Note to Session: When completing this endorsement, please specifically highlight the student's involvement in the church. Feel free to add information you feel is relevant to the student's application. While a statement from the applicant's pastor is not required, many times this affords the committee deeper insight into the student's life, church participation, educational aspirations, and vocational goals.

Name of Applicant:

Endorsement of Session

We, the Session of the _____ Presbyterian Church, in the Shenandoah Presbytery, have personal knowledge of the applicant whose name appears above, and who has been an active member of this church for _____ years.

We believe the applicant should receive scholarship aid considering the following information (Please Attach)

Adopted in meeting of the session, this _____ day of _____, 20____. Signed:

Moderator (or Session Designee):

Clerk (or Session Designee):

This form is to be considered confidential, to be shared only with the Session and the Committee on Educational Resources until after it has been completed when it will be confidentially filed by Shenandoah Presbytery Officials. It is the Session's responsibility to send the completed application to the Presbytery Office by June 1st.

Please return to:
Shenandoah Presbytery
Funds Administrator – Scholarship
Committee on Educational Resources
PO Box 1146
Harrisonburg, VA 22803
bookkeeper@shenpres.org

Digital Copies are preferred; hard copies are accepted.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Rev. Rae Watson, chair, Committee on Educational Resources, Shenandoah Presbytery, (revrachelwatson@gmail.com) or call the Presbytery Office (540)433-2556.