

FLORIDA P.E.O. SCHOLARSHIP -- GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANT

- 1.1 CONGRATULATIONS! You have made a first step toward your college education by applying for a FLORIDA P.E.O. SCHOLARSHIP. This scholarship is funded by Florida Chapters of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, a Philanthropic Educational Organization. Scholarships are awarded for financial assistance for **TUITION, BOOKS, AND COURSE-RELATED FEES** only, as required for enrollment or attendance. Applicants with Florida Bright Futures scholarships ARE eligible, as are dual enrolled high school students.
- 1.2 The amount granted for each one-year scholarship will be determined by the State Committee but will not exceed \$2,500. A one-time renewal may be awarded.
- 1.3 Notification of provisional award will be made by the Florida P.E.O. Scholarship Committee Chair by Email. Communication of final award will be made by the P.E.O. Foundation. Email notifications will be sent to all applicants and sponsoring chapters concerning the decisions. **Five** alternate recipients will be selected in the event an award is declined. Alternates will be notified of award only in the event scholarships are declined.
- 1.4 The following are requirements for application:
 - 1.4.1 The applicant must be a woman who is a resident of the State of Florida and a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident of the U.S.
 - 1.4.2 Applicants must meet requirements of scholarship, character, personality, purpose, and need. Applicants for the first award year must have high scholastic standing as measured by class rank and standardized test scores (optional), plus a minimum unweighted 3.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.
 - 1.4.3 The applicant must be accepted or awaiting acceptance for admission to her first year of full-time post-secondary study. Full-time study is defined as 24 annual credit hours at an accredited college or university.
 - 1.4.4 Study must be leading to an associate or bachelor's degree at a public or private Florida college or university accredited by the Council on Post-secondary Accreditation or the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
 - 1.4.5 The applicant must meet with and be sponsored by a Florida P.E.O. chapter. Current application forms must be obtained from a local P.E.O. chapter. Information about contacting a local chapter may be obtained by emailing the Florida P.E.O. Scholarship chairman through the flyer posted on the Florida P.E.O. website (www.peoflorida.org).
 - 1.4.6 To apply for the Scholarship, the applicant must return the documents listed in Section 1.5 to the local sponsoring chapter by **January 15th**, prior to her first year of post-secondary study. The chapter will vote to determine if it will sponsor the applicant and then email the completed application materials to the State Chairman of the Florida P.E.O. Scholarship Committee **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1st**. Submission of application materials prior to the deadline is highly encouraged.

- 1.5 Documents required from the applicant:
 - 1.5.1 Completed application, including a resume and a one-page essay detailing education and career plans, and any other personal information relevant to your need for this scholarship.
 - 1.5.2 Completed Family Financial Statement - attach the most recent 1040 Tax Return and the Federal Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA). If desired for confidentiality, this form and attached required documents may be sent directly to the Florida P.E.O. Scholarship Chair.
 - 1.5.3 Current transcript from High School including final fall semester grades.
 - 1.5.4 Applicants who have already obtained college credit via dual enrollment **MUST** also include a current college transcript with the application.
 - 1.5.5 Signed and dated letter of recommendation from **THREE** of the four choices below:
 - 1.5.5.a Guidance Counselor or High School Principal
 - 1.5.5.b Teacher
 - 1.5.5.c Clergy
 - 1.5.5.d Business or professional person known to you
 - 1.5.6** Copy of letter of acceptance from your chosen Florida college or university. **Note: Send your application even if you do not have the college or university letter of acceptance. Upon receipt of your acceptance to your preferred college or any other you have applied to, immediately send a copy of it to the Florida P.E.O. Scholarship Chair. Consideration for awards depends on this acceptance.**
 - 1.5.7 Current passport-size 2" x 2" photo (optional).
- 1.6 Applicants for a one-time scholarship **renewal** must continue to meet requirements of scholarship, character, personality, purpose, and need. Applicants must have completed one year of full-time (24 credit hours) study, maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale), be enrolled as a full-time student for the next academic year, and be sponsored by the local chapter.
- 1.7 Documents required from the renewal applicant:
 - 1.7.1 Completed *Renewal Application*
 - 1.7.2 Current college transcript including final Fall semester grades. (The unofficial transcript with final Spring semester grades will be due by **July 10th** for sponsored renewal scholarship applicants.)
 - 1.7.3 To apply for the renewal scholarship, the applicant must return the documents listed in Section 1.7 to the local sponsoring chapter by January 15th, prior to her second year of post-secondary study. The chapter will vote to determine if it will sponsor the applicant and then email (preferred) or mail the completed application materials to the 1Y member of the state committee **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1st**.
 - 1.7.4 **Renewal scholarships** are provisionally awarded in July when the

applicant meets the following criteria: cumulative GPA 3.0 or above; evidence of fulltime enrollment in the following academic year. The deadline for submission is July 10th.

1.8 Appendix

1.8.1 Application (2 pages)

1.8.2 Family Financial Statement (2 pages)

1.8.3 Renewal Application