



Application for Undergraduate Education Scholarship

Grants and Scholarships Team

The Grants and Scholarships Team of First Presbyterian Church, Houston

The Grants and Scholarships Team (GST) of First Presbyterian Church of Houston (FPC) is responsible for the stewardship of the amounts allocated by FPC's Session for expenditure from the Church's endowed and quasi-endowed funds. The GST prayerfully makes decisions about how best to administer the gifts people have given to our church, being careful to honor any guidelines that accompany these gifts. The GST is a Ministry Team reporting to the Senior Pastor and operating pursuant to a charter established by the Session. The GST utilizes Session-allocated funds to grant scholarships to accredited undergraduate colleges or equivalent institutions qualifying for use of funds under the Federal School Code for 529 plans.

Information Regarding Undergraduate Scholarship Grants Deadline

To be considered for an Undergraduate Education Scholarship, an application and all required application materials must be completed and received by the GST by one of the three submittal dates:

- **June 1** for the fall school session
- **November 1** for the spring school session
- **April 1** for the summer school session

Administration of Scholarships

- Undergraduate student scholarship grants are awarded based on church or ministry involvement, financial need, contribution to community and academic performance.
- Undergraduate student scholarship grants for applications submitted by June 1, will be approved on an annual basis but will be funded by term or semester. Scholarship grants made for applications submitted by the November 1 or April 1 deadline, will be awarded only for the spring semester or summer session respectively.
- Students awarded an annual scholarship (June 1 deadline) will be notified with the fall disbursement that they must provide proof of enrollment by Dec 1 before further disbursements will be made.

- Undergraduate student scholarship grants are awarded in amounts of no more than \$7,500 per academic year.
- Total gifts to any one student will not exceed \$30,000 in aggregate.
- Scholarship award payments are made payable directly to the undergraduate institution.

Application Process

The following must be submitted to complete the application process:

- Completed Application for Undergraduate Education Scholarship (this form).
- To demonstrate financial need, an SAS (Student Aid Summary) is required. All financial information will be kept confidential.
- High school transcript for college freshman only and college transcript or other school record for each succeeding semester of undergraduate work indicating that the applicant is in good standing at his or her undergraduate institution.
- Summary of Previous School Year's Experience. Use Exhibit A.
- Church or Ministry Involvement Form. Use Exhibit B.
- The applicant must demonstrate sufficient connection to FPC using the criteria below to be eligible for further evaluation and award. Any of the following are sufficient:
 - the applicant is an FPC member.
 - applicant has family who are FPC members and applicant attends regularly
 - applicant is a member of a missionary family that FPC supports.
 - applicant is a member somewhere else and has a parent or guardian who is a current staff member.

Selection Criteria

Eligible applicants are reviewed by the GST based on the following criteria.

- **Church or ministry involvement**
- **Financial need**
- **Contribution to community and leadership**
- **Academic performance**

To give us a clear picture of your need and your relationship to our church, please answer all the following questions.

Name of Student Applicant _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

E-mail _____

Time period covered by scholarship:

☐ Full year, full time (2 semesters of 12+ credit hours) beginning _____

☐ Single term beginning _____

☐ Other (summer, online, part-time, etc.) specify/beginning _____

University or College Name _____

Major Field of study _____

Grade level at start of scholarship period:

☐ Freshman

☐ Sophomore

☐ Junior

☐ Senior

Why have you chosen this University or College?

Are you a member of FPC Houston? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you are not a member, what is your affiliation with FPC Houston?

Please describe the nature and extent of your current and past involvement with FPC or your home church.

Are there specific financial circumstances or special needs you would like for the GST team to consider when evaluating your application? If so, please

include that information here:

Please provide employment history (full or part-time) or attach resume.
Student-related expenses (anticipated costs for the period covered by the scholarship)

Tuition	\$ _____
Fees	\$ _____
Books	\$ _____
Room & Board	\$ _____
Transportation	\$ _____

Total \$ _____

What other scholarships, grants or financial aid (including student loans) have you received?

Total \$ _____

Amount requested from FPC Houston \$ _____

If the Grants and Scholarships Team has previously granted you a scholarship, please indicate the period covered by such scholarship(s).

Signature _____ Date _____

Return completed grant applications to:

For Office Use Only:

Received: _____

By: _____

First Presbyterian
Church 5300 Main St.
Houston, TX 77004
Attn: Erin Varnell, Executive
Assistant

or by email: evarnell@fpchouston.org

Your application must include each of the following:

- Completed application
- To demonstrate financial need, an SAS (Student Aid Summary) generated by completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) found here: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.
- High School transcript for college freshman and college transcript or other

school record for each succeeding semester of undergraduate work indicating that the applicant is in good standing at his or her undergraduate institution.

- Completed Summary of Previous School Year's Experience, Exhibit A
- Completed Church or Ministry Involvement form, Exhibit B



Exhibit B

Church or Ministry Involvement Form

Undergraduate Education Scholarship

By my signature below, I confirm that _____
(applicant's name) has been involved in _____
(church or ministry) during the past school year. Briefly describe his/her involvement.

Name of Ministry Representative

Role in church or ministry

Date

Exhibit A

Summary of Previous School Year's Experience

Section 1: Academic Performance

1. Coursework

Briefly describe your academic performance in your coursework including grades, challenges, improvements. For applicants entering the freshman year of college, please include your high school transcript. College students should include a transcript or other school record for each semester of undergraduate work indicating that the applicant is in good standing at his or her undergraduate institution.

Your response

2. Academic Goals:

What are your academic goals for this term? How do you plan to achieve them?

Your response:

Section 2: Christian Faith Experience

1. Faith Journey:

Describe your current experience in your Christian faith. How has it influenced your personal development?

Your response:

2. Involvement in Faith Community:

How are you currently involved in your church or Christian community e.g., volunteering, leadership roles, etc.?

Your response:



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3. Future Plans

Have you considered how you might be involved in ministry-related activities after graduation including in a volunteer capacity?

Your response:

**Please have a ministry representative of one of your activities complete the “Church or Ministry Involvement” form, Exhibit B, included with this application. It may be completed by any teacher or leader in your church or ministry-related activity.*

Section 3: Community Involvement

1. Current Involvement:

List your extracurricular activities, including clubs, sports, volunteer work, or other commitments.

Your response:

2. Time Management:

How do you balance your extracurricular activities with your academic and faith commitments?

Your response:

Additional Comment: Please share any other thoughts or feedback that may be relevant to your scholarship experience.

Your response: