



Dear Scholarship Applicant:

The First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale Scholarship Program was formally established in 1974 by Jimmie Lee Byal, Cotton Clinton, Harold Cox, and Marjean Packard. This program was created to provide financial support to First Presbyterian Church students who had a dream to pursue an undergraduate education. With the continuing financial support of its members and friends, First Presbyterian Church is able to provide students with scholarship assistance for full-time undergraduate studies as well as graduate students seeking a degree in professional fields of Christian Service. This packet provides you with the application forms needed to apply for a First Presbyterian Church scholarship.

If you would like to apply for a First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale scholarship, please complete the enclosed application and return it, along with all documentation, to:

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale
Attn: Scholarship Committee
401 SE 15th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
scholarship@firstpres.cc
954-462-6200
954-462-6248 (fax)

Scholarship awards are made on an annual basis. Applicants must reapply each academic year. **The deadline for submitting a completed application for the 2021-2022 academic year is 5pm on March 1st.** Please be assured that the information you submit will be kept confidential. Please see the attached policies and directions for further information. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.

Scholarship awards are offered to eligible undergraduate college students seeking a Bachelor's degree. Consideration for a scholarship award will include evaluation of the candidate's participation in the activities offered at First Presbyterian Church, financial need, academic standing, as well as other school, work, and community activities.

We appreciate your interest in the First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Program. If you have any questions, or need further information, please contact the Scholarship Team at scholarship@firstpres.cc.

Sincerely,
Scholarship Team
First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale Scholarship Program Information

Purposes of The First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale Scholarship Program Approved by Session, November 2017

1. To honor and recognize First Presbyterian Church students who are members for their commitment to First Presbyterian Church and their involvement in worship and church programs;
2. To encourage the development of Christian character and growth in faith;
3. To provide merit-based scholarships to eligible full-time undergraduate First Presbyterian Church students who are members and meet the required criteria, and are pursuing an Associates or Bachelors degree at an accredited college or university;
4. To provide assistance for First Presbyterian Church students who are members, meet the required criteria, and are attending a vocational and/or technical school at a regionally accredited institution;
5. To provide loans to First Presbyterian Church students who are members and meet the required criteria, and who are pursuing a Seminary degree at a Presbyterian-approved seminary. To provide loans to graduate students who are First Presbyterian Church students who are members, meet the required criteria, and who are seeking a graduate degree in a professional field of Christian Service;
6. To provide financial assistance to eligible First Presbyterian Church students who are members and who have demonstrated a financial need; and
7. To provide financial assistance to qualified non-member minorities and non-member Samaritan recipients who are active in their Christian churches and meet the required criteria.

Types of Scholarships Available

Named Scholarships – Awarded to First Presbyterian Church students who are members and meet the required criteria. These endowed scholarships are given in honor of or in memory of a particular person(s). These merit-based scholarships recognize an applicant’s past and present involvement in the life and work of the church and may have special criteria – e.g. leadership qualities, a particular field of interest, etc. A student receiving a named scholarship is ordinarily ineligible for other scholarship assistance from First Presbyterian Church, with the exception of established financial need.

Minority Scholarship – Minority Scholarship – Awarded to qualified non-member minority students who are US Citizens, reside in Broward County, Florida, and are active members of another Christian church, based upon letters of recommendation and criteria as listed on the application.

Need-Based Scholarship – For eligible First Presbyterian Church students who are members, to supplement other scholarships in cases where the applicant can demonstrate significant unmet financial need.

Samaritan Award – Recipient: Awarded to a non-member student(s) who is(are) a US Citizen, a Broward County, Florida, resident, and is/are an active member of a Christian Church; based upon letters of recommendation, documented financial need, and meeting all requirements and considerations as listed on the application. **Donor:** Award is funded by First Presbyterian Church students who qualify for a scholarship but, because of their desire to help students with a documented financial need, the student(s) and their parent(s) ask the church to transfer all or part of their scholarship funds into this fund. All donors will receive special recognition by the Scholarship Team.

Vocational/Technical Award: Awarded to First Presbyterian Church students who is are members, meet the required criteria, and are attending a vocational or technical school that is regionally accredited. A student receiving a vocational/technical award is ordinarily ineligible for other scholarship assistance from First Presbyterian Church, with the exception of established financial need.

Requirements for All Scholarships

- Completed application form(s) **MUST** be in the church office *no later than 5pm on March 1st, 2020*. **All requested information must be included.** Letters of recommendation are confidential, must be written on either letterhead or the form provided, and delivered in a sealed envelope. For first time applicants who are high school students: the letter of recommendation must be completed by a High School Principal, High School Guidance Counselor, or a high school academic teacher. For first time applicants who are college students: the letter of recommendation must be completed by a High School Principal, a High School Guidance Counselor, a high school academic teacher, a college professor, or your college advisor. Letters of recommendation may be emailed, provided they are emailed directly from school personnel, with a school email address. **Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.**
- All applicants, except referred minorities and referred Samaritan Award Recipient applicants, must have been a member of **only** First Presbyterian Church for a minimum of two years at the time of application. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the Scholarship Team.
- Proof of acceptance/enrollment as a full-time student in an accredited college or university (also required if transferring).
- Current high school students must provide an official transcript in a sealed envelope from their high school.
- Current college students must present an unofficial transcript that includes overall (cumulative GPA) as well as grades for the most recent semester.
- Students must be full-time students (as defined by the student's college; typically 12 hours) and must maintain at least a semester grade point average (GPA) of a 2.0 as well as an overall 2.0 GPA. In the event that the required GPA is not achieved or full-time status is not maintained, all financial assistance will be suspended until qualification is re-established.
- Lifestyle characteristics should be consistent with Christian values.
- Award recipients must notify the Scholarship Team of any change of mailing address, school, or status as student within 30 days. A change in school or enrollment status (i.e. full time or part time) may affect eligibility for scholarship assistance or award.
- A student must provide the Scholarship Team at First Presbyterian Church their current home, school, email addresses and telephone numbers prior to checks being mailed.
- A student must provide an unofficial fall transcript to the Scholarship Team no later than January 15th in order to receive a spring scholarship check.
- A student must provide an unofficial spring transcript to the Scholarship Team no later than June 15th in order to receive a fall scholarship check.
- Students must reapply each year to be eligible for an award. Financial assistance is based on a standard 4-year college program and will be limited to 8 semesters of college work. If a student is in a true 5 year program and has not changed majors, the committee will consider funding the 5th year. Extenuating circumstances (i.e. 5 year programs) will be considered by the Scholarship Team.
- Applicant's ranking for a scholarship is affected by involvement in **all** church activities. Additional involvement in church activities following high school may improve an applicant's ranking.

Specific Requirements

Need-Based Scholarships

Need-based scholarship applications will only be accepted from First Presbyterian Church students who are members and meet the scholarship requirements. Applicants must submit financial need information forms as specified on the scholarship application.

Need-based scholarship applicants must provide the Scholarship committee with documented financial need including the following:

1. The Financial Need Information Form
2. A copy of your completed FAFSA application form (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and/or SAR form. The FAFSA form is available by calling the US Department of Education at 1-800-433-3243 or online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Minority Scholarship and Samaritan Award Recipient applicants must be a U.S. citizen, a Broward County, Florida resident, a member of a another Christian church, and be recommended by a teacher or principal **and** a pastor of the Church of which the student is a member. Letters of recommendation are confidential, must be written on either letterhead or the form provided, and delivered in a sealed envelope. For applicants who are high school students: the letter of recommendation must be completed by a High School Principal, High School Guidance Counselor, or a high school academic teacher. For who are college students: the letter of recommendation must be completed by a High School Principal, a High School Guidance Counselor, a high school academic teacher, a college professor, or your college advisor. Letters of recommendation may be emailed, provided they are emailed directly from school or church personnel, with a school or church email address. An interview with the Scholarship Team is also required. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.

Other Considerations

- Scholarship checks are payable to the school, not the student. Checks will be mailed to the student's home address. Checks are processed in July and January. It is the recipient's obligation to see that the check is cashed within 90 days of issuance. A charge of \$100.00 may be deducted from any scholarship check that requires reissuing due to a student's failure to communicate loss of check, change of school, change of address, failure to meet the deadlines, etc.
- Consideration for a scholarship beyond the first year is based upon the student and his/her parents (or guardians) as continued worshipping and contributing members/participants of First Presbyterian Church. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by Scholarship Team.

Upon graduation, recipients are strongly encouraged to contribute to this scholarship program so that others may receive like benefits.

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale

College/University Information

Name of School: _____ City/State: _____

Will you be attending the same school in the Fall of 2020? _____ If not, where will you be attending? _____

Fall 2020 Classification (please circle): Sophomore Junior Senior Fifth Year

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Major or Course of Study: _____

Credit Hours Required for Graduation: _____ Credit Hours Completed Thus Far: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____

Address where you will live at College in Fall 2020:

City *State* *Zip*

Other Information

Are you employed while at college? Yes No

If so, where? _____

How many hours per week do you work? _____

Please list any additional sources of income, financial aid, and scholarships you anticipate for the coming year (i.e. Pell Grant, Florida Pre-Paid, Bright Futures, merit scholarships, athletic scholarships, etc). Please include the expected amount for all aid

Statement of Affirmation and Signature

I am applying for a First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale Scholarship for the 2020-2021 Academic Year. I affirm that all information and statements provided by me in this application are true and correct. I understand that failure to provide a complete application, including all requested materials and documentation, by the designated application deadline will disqualify me from further consideration for a 2020-21 scholarship. Moreover, I understand that any false or misleading information and/or statements will disqualify me from further consideration for a scholarship. I understand that my application materials will be held confidential by the First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Team. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale Scholarship Program.

Applicant: _____ Date: _____

If awarded a scholarship, would you like more information about donating all or part of your scholarship to the Samaritan Scholarship Fund? Yes No

Current Religious Involvement

To help the committee better evaluate your current involvement in church/collegiate/campus or benevolent organizations, please answer the following questions:

Please list all church activities in which you are **currently** involved or have volunteered and how they have impacted your life so far: *(use additional paper if necessary)*

List all community activities in which you are **currently** involved and how they have impacted your life: *(use additional paper if necessary)*

Please list all collegiate extracurricular activities in which you are a member: *(use additional paper if necessary)*

Comments / Special Circumstances

All applicants are asked to note here anything else you want the committee to know in considering your scholarship application.

Please include employment, activities, goals and aspirations.

(Please use additional paper if needed.)

Financial Need Information Form (2020 - 2021)

Complete this form ONLY if you are applying for a Need-Based Scholarship

Student: _____ Date: _____

Parents' Signature: _____ College: _____

ESTIMATED YEARLY COST OF ATTENDING SCHOOL <i>(These figures are usually provided by the school.)</i>		
Tuition		
Room or Rent (including utilities)		
Board or Food		
Books and Supplies		
Transportation		
Other:		
Total Costs		
ESTIMATED FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES		
Expected Contribution from Parents		
Expected Contribution from Spouse (if applicable)		
Expected Contribution from Savings / Summer Work		
Work Study Income during school year		
Scholarships and Loans <i>(note if applied for, but not yet certain)</i>		
Federal Student Loan		
Pell Grant		
Bright Futures		
Any other grants, loans and/or scholarships		
Other		
Total Resources		
REMAINING FINANCIAL NEED <i>(Subtract Total Resources from Total Costs)</i>		

Note

1. You must provide the Scholarship Committee with a copy of your Federal Student Aid Form. Student Aid Form information is available by calling the U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-433-3243 or online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
2. The Recommendation Form must be completed by your Guidance Counselor or an Academic Teacher if you are applying for a need-based scholarship, a minority scholarship, a Samaritan scholarship, and/or are an entering freshman or a first-time applicant.

Financial Need Information Form (2020 - 2021)

pg. 2

Please respond to the following questions.

You may also write on the back or use an additional sheet of paper.

1. Tell us more about yourself as a person. For example, you may want to share with us something about the experiences that have shaped your personal development, or you may want to discuss your goals, values or ideals.
2. Describe any after school employment or summer activity you may have had.
3. Briefly discuss which of your activities and/or experiences have had the most meaning for you and why.
4. How would you use this scholarship to further your education?
5. Please indicate any special circumstances of which the Scholarship Committee should be aware as we consider your application.

Scholarship Committee
First Presbyterian Church
401 SE 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
(954) 462-6200 voice or (954) 462-6248 fax

Scholarship Renewal Request for Returning Applicants

Application Checklist

Have you remembered to:

√ _____ **ALL** - Complete the **entire** application

√ _____ **ALL** - Sign the application

√ _____ **ALL** - Attach a picture

√ _____ **ALL** - Attach a copy of your unofficial transcript (which must include your overall GPA as well as your previous semester courses and GPA)

√ _____ **FINANCIAL NEED APPLICANTS, MINORITY, AND SAMARITAN APPLICANTS** - Complete Financial Need Section (if applicable), including attaching the FAFSA or SAR

√ _____ **ALL** - Turn in the **completed application plus all required materials** (i.e. transcript and FAFSA) by **5:00pm on March 1st**