

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

First United Methodist Church--Fort Smith, Arkansas

1. The FUMC Scholarship Committee makes awards utilizing funds contributed to the *Memorial Scholarship Fund*.
2. *Memorial and In-Honor of gifts* received are over and above the established church Budget and are not to be considered a part of or used for any portion of the budget prepared by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Administrative Board.
3. Gifts of a substantial amount (\$100 or more) memorializing an individual are subject to the recommendations of the bereaved family.
4. Restricted contributions (specifying the recipient) can be accepted from organizations but not from individuals.
5. The scholarship fund is available for deserving students who are active members of FUMC continuing education above the high school level.
6. While scholastic record and other factors will be considered, financial need is of particular concern to the Committee.
7. Awards are made on a semester basis. Assuming recipients are making satisfactory academic progress, they may apply for a continuation of scholarship assistance.
8. Initial application for a scholarship should be made on a form provided by the Scholarship Committee. Any information which the applicant believes may be helpful to the Committee should be included.
9. A minimum of one letter of recommendation must accompany their application.
10. Applications for 2009-2010 should be received no later than July 1st.
Previous scholarship recipients who would like to be considered for additional scholarship funding, are asked to also submit a letter of intent and a copy of their school/college transcript.
11. The amounts of scholarships awarded will vary depending upon the applicants' circumstance and on the availability of funds. For the same reason, awards to a recipient receiving continuing funding may vary from semester to semester.
12. Applicants should not expect FUMC to fund all college expenses. Before applying to FUMC, applicants should have sought financial aid through Pell Grants, guaranteed student loans, the State Scholarship Program, and from other common sources of student financial assistance.
13. If for any reason a recipient drops out of college before completing a semester for which FUMC scholarship funds have been awarded, that semester's award shall be refunded to FUMC unless an exception is specifically approved by the Scholarship Committee. Recipients are to forward an (official) transcript copy to the Scholarship Committee at the conclusion of their academic year. Failure to do so will disqualify future scholarship consideration.
14. Applicants understand that the names of scholarship recipients may be publicized in church publications including newsletter, bulletin, other. Recipients are encouraged to be present during the designated "College Recognition Sunday".

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Scholarship Committee
First United Methodist Church
200 North 15th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Age: _____

School of higher education you plan to attend:

Present college classification:

Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____

Will you be enrolled as a full time student? _____ No. of hours _____

List the major expenses you will incur per semester at the college you hope to attend:

Tuition \$ _____ Other, specify _____ \$ _____

Books \$ _____ Other, specify _____ \$ _____

Room & Board \$ _____ Other, specify _____ \$ _____

Total (both columns) \$ _____

List below other scholarships, loans, grants, or financial aid for which you have applied or plan to apply:

If the results of the above applications are know state those. If not yet known, when are the results expected? _____

Beyond the financial aid possibilities covered above, how do you expect to fund your college education (savings, parental assistance, job, etc.)? _____

What is the amount of assistance you are requesting from the FUMC Scholarship Committee? _____

How many semesters do you anticipate needing assistance from this source? _____

What degree/certification are you actively pursuing? _____

When do you expect to receive it? _____

What is your intended vocation after acquiring this degree/certification? _____

The first eligibility requirement is to have been an “*Active member of First United Methodist Church in regular attendance*”. Please explain how you have met this requirement: _____

APPLICATION IS COMPLETE ONLY UPON RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:

An updated transcript from the previous year.

A signed copy of this application.

One letter of recommendation.

“I hereby certify that the foregoing information is true, accurate and correct. I have read the Eligibility Requirements and Guidelines for the First United Methodist Church Scholarship (provided with this application) and believe that at this time I am a qualified applicant under them. I authorize release of scholarship information.”

Signature: _____

Date: _____

A new application shall be filed annually. (Revised 10-3-01)