

**Annunciation Endowment Fund (AEF)
Scholarship Program
2023 Policies and Procedures**

The Endowment Fund of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation has established a scholarship award program for qualified High School graduates who have been accepted to and will enroll in an accredited college or university, a community college, or an accredited/licensed vocational school. The award is intended for students entering one of these institutions for the first time. Up to three scholarships of \$2500 will be awarded each year.

PURPOSE:

To encourage active participation in church, school and civic activities and to foster an attitude of Christian love, responsibility and service to others.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be of the Orthodox faith. Applicant and/or family must be members in good standing of any of the Greek Orthodox parishes in the greater Sacramento area. At present, this includes Annunciation in Sacramento, St. Katherine in Elk Grove, and St. Anna in Roseville. The main requirements of successful candidates will be to demonstrate active participation in church worship and social activities, school extra-curricular activities and civic activities.

Applicants must have a high school GPA of at least 2.5 through the 1st term of their senior year.

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES:

The Scholarship Award Committee will consist of three people. One of the AEF representatives shall server as the Administrator of the Selection Committee and shall not participate in the actual selection process. Only the Administrator shall know the applicants' names, having redacted all identifying information. Each applicant will be given a number by the Administrator who will keep the identifying information. Applicants' names shall not be revealed to the other members of the committee until after they have selected the recipients. The review and selection process, as well as the contents of the applications, will remain confidential.

The AEF Board will appoint two AEF representatives and each shall serve a two-year term. The first year, one AEF representative shall be appointed to a one-year term and one shall be appointed to a two-year term to provide continuity in future years. A third person shall be selected by the AEF Board from the greater Sacramento Community, and shall be asked to serve a two-year term.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Application: A completed copy of the application, or a Computer printed facsimile of the form. A computer facsimile should use a size 12-point font with one-inch margins.

Official Transcript: The applicant must submit a **sealed official** high school transcript which includes grades through the 1st semester of the Senior- year. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

Letters of Recommendation: The applicant must include two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from the Parish Priest and the other from a teacher, counselor, administrator or group leader of a service organization. All letters must be included in the application packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered.

Personal Statement: A statement of not more than 500 words describing the impact the applicant's church and civic involvement has had on his/her Christian life and plans and goals. use a size 12-point font with one-inch margins.

Letter of Acceptance: A copy of the letter of acceptance from the college or university the applicant plans to attend, or an equivalent letter or admission from a community college or private institution.

SELECTION CRITERIA

First time Student: The applicant is entering college or vocational school for the first time.

Parish Activities: The applicants' active participation in his/her parish's religious and social life will be the primary consideration for the scholarship award. Character, citizenship, personality and extra-curricular school and civic activities will also be considered.

Letters of Recommendation: The content of the letters of recommendation will be of secondary importance in the application evaluation process. Letters must be included in the application packet. Letters sent separately will not be accepted.

GPA Requirement: 2.5 or better through the 1st senior semester of high school. GPA beyond 2.5 carries the least weight in the selection process.

ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS

Only complete applications with all required documents will be accepted. Application and all required documents must be placed in a single sealed envelope, and must be sent by USPS mail with a postmark deadline of July 1st. Applications submitted in any other manner will not be accepted. No exceptions.

Applications must be addressed to:

Annunciation Endowment Fund Scholarship Committee c/o
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church 616 Alhambra Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95816

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD PRESENTATION

Notification: All applicants will receive a letter of notification by the AEF Scholarship Committee by August 15th whether or not they have been awarded a scholarship.

Scholarship Award: Scholarship checks will be mailed to recipients only after the AEF Scholarship Committee receives official verification of enrollment and attendance for 12 units or more for the fall semester or quarter term of the year of application.

Awards Ceremony: Scholarship recipients will be honored at Annunciation Church after the Liturgy on a date to be selected. Alternative arrangements may be considered.