

**ELMWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID GUIDELINES**

April 2018

APPLICATION CRITERIA

The applicant must be a high school graduate, or enrolled full-time in a post-secondary institution (technical school, college, university).

The applicant and/or parent or guardian must be a member of the Elmwood United Presbyterian Church. Evidence of membership and/or involvement **must** be included on the Application. Priority consideration will be given to active members who are involved in the life of the church.

Applicants will be judged on the neatness, promptness of response, and completeness of their submission. This includes fulfillment of requests for: (a) the latest **available** transcript; (b) a **complete** essay; (c) financial information, e.g., tuition, room & board costs, other scholarship information, etc.; and (d) a mandatory interview with the Committee. With limited funds, the Scholarship Committee prefers to give fewer, but more meaningful awards to those who demonstrate serious interest and academic success.

THERE ARE TWO CATEGORIES OF AWARDS

Scholarship and Financial Aid

Awards for **financial aid** will be made to:

High school seniors and college students students who evidence a financial need.

Awards for **scholarship** will be made to:

High school seniors who have outstanding academic averages (3.0) upon graduation from high school.

College students who have outstanding academic averages (3.0) in a **full year** of post-secondary education.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Email your completed application, essay, transcript and other requested information to:
elmwoodscholarship@gmail.com

or
send it to:

**Valerie Best
Elmwood United Presbyterian Church
135 Elmwood Ave
East Orange, NJ 07018**

Filing Deadline: June 3, 2018 - College Students

June 10, 2018 - Graduating High School Seniors

NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINES.

Each applicant must submit the latest available transcript, with the applicant's academic average to date. Information must be included to describe the grading system, e.g., A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, etc. **Until a transcript or clear, legible copy is submitted, no application will be considered complete and no award will be granted.**

New entrants to college **must also provide a copy of their letter of acceptance.**

Each applicant **must prepare a concise, carefully worded, and grammatically correct typed essay.** You may select one of the topics listed in the application.

Each application **must submit his/her resume.**

Each student should be involved in **church services and activities.**

Each applicant must submit all of the requested information. It is expected that all information contained in the application be factual. **The applicant and his/her parent or guardian must sign the application.**

SELECTION PROCESS

Requests will be screened and evaluated solely by the Scholarship Committee.

All information received by the Committee will be discussed in complete confidence and used with the utmost discretion.

After receipt of the application including the transcript, the Committee will meet with each applicant. We will **contact each person by phone** to confirm the date and time of his/her interview. Interviews will be held from **June 9 to June 14** for students who are already in **college** and from **June 16 to June 21** for graduating **high school seniors**. **Applicants are required to have a face-to-face interview to receive a grant.** If an applicant cannot interview on the date given, it is the individual's responsibility to contact Mrs. Valerie Best at (973) 678-5318 or Mrs. Jane Saunders (973) 674-9013 to schedule an alternate date.

The awards ceremony will be held on **Sunday, July 15, 2018 at the 9:30 a.m.** at Elmwood East. Checks may be issued **jointly** to applicant and parent/guardian

SUMMARY OF CRITICAL DATES

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Filing Deadline: | June 3, 2018 - College Students |
| | June 10, 2018 - Graduating High School Seniors |
| Interviews: | June 9 to June 14 - College Students |
| | June 16 to June 21- Graduating High School Seniors |
| Award Presentation: | Sunday, July 15, 2018 during the 9:30 a.m. service at Elmwood East |

If there are circumstances that require a special interview time please describe them here: _____

April, 2018

**ELMWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND/OR FINANCIAL AID**

Please print or type all information

Name: _____

Address:

Home Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

E-mail _____ **Parent's E-Mail:** _____

Parent or Guardian:

Are you a member of Elmwood Presbyterian Church? Yes _____ No _____

Is your parent(s) or guardian a member(s) of Elmwood Presbyterian Church?
Yes _____ No _____

High School: _____ Year of Graduation: _____
(High School Seniors must provide a transcript)

College or Other Post-Secondary School: _____
(If you are entering College as a first year student or a transfer student you must provide a copy of your acceptance letter)

Major: _____ Minor: _____

Career Objectives:

Overall GPA: _____
(*Transcript Required*)

Expected Year of Graduation: _____

Please list school activities in which you have been actively involved or played a leadership role:

Please list any other activities, e.g., volunteer, civic, religious, in which you have been actively involved, including offices held:

Please provide the following information:

Tuition (Annual): _____ Room/Board: _____

Other Costs (Books, Commuting, etc.): _____

Expected Financial Aid: _____

Please describe how you plan to cover your college costs:

Please list at least two references who can attest to your character and verify your involvement in school and church activities (**NO FAMILY MEMBERS**)

Name: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Phone Number: _____

QUALIFYING ESSAY

April 2018

Please select **one (1)** of the following questions and prepare a typed essay not to exceed 500 words. You should **carefully review your submission for grammar, typos, neatness, etc.** The essay is an important part of the application review process.

Select one (1) question

1. Tell us about your academic and career goals as well as why you have decided to pursue them?
2. Tell us about a community service project or other activity that you have participated in and how it enriched your life?
3. Having the benefit of hindsight, what advice would you give a prospective college freshman and why?
4. Tell us how you plan to reach back and support students that aspire to go to college.
5. How has your Christian walk been challenged while at school? How have you overcome that challenge and remained strong in your faith?

Applicants Statement of Assurance

I declare that the information contained in this application is true. I do understand that if any falsified information is included in this application, I will not be able to apply for a scholarship or financial aid with the Elmwood Scholarship Committee in the future.

Applicant's Signature:

Applicants under 21 years of age must have their parent or guardian sign below.

Parent/Guardian Signature:
