

ELMWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

April 2025

APPLICATION CRITERIA

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

The applicant must be a non-Elmwood member who has volunteered their time and talents to Elmwood United Presbyterian Church or in the community.

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.; (d) resume; and (e) a mandatory interview with the Committee. Applicants may re-apply but first priority will be given to new applicants. The Committee reserves the right to determine how many scholarships will be awarded.

The applicant must have a 3.0 average or better.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Email your completed application, essay, transcript and other requested information to:

EUPCsScholarship@gmail.com

or

send it to:

Valerie Best

Elmwood United Presbyterian Church

135 Elmwood Ave

East Orange, NJ 07018

vbesthearts@gmail.com

Filing Deadline:

Sunday, May 25, 2025 - NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE.

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 clear, legible transcript copy is submitted, no application will be considered complete. A final transcript must be submitted before awards are 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 a resume.**

Each applicant **must** be involved in **community service/volunteer activities.** Applicants are not limited in their activity. They can volunteer to help with a church ministry, volunteer for a non-profit, donate time to their school, or volunteer in other ways. Applicants will be required to describe their participation in the application below and provide a resume.

Each applicant must submit all of the requested information. It is expected that all information contained in the application be factual. **The applicant must sign the application. If the applicant is under 18 years old, the parent or guardian must also sign the application.**

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be screened and evaluated solely by the Elmwood Scholarship Committee.

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

After receipt of the application including the transcript and resume, the Committee will meet with each applicant. We will **contact each person by phone** to confirm the date and time of the interview. Interviews will be held from **June 15th to June 29th.** **Applicants are required to have a face-to-face interview to receive a scholarship.** If an applicant cannot interview on the date given, it is the individual's responsibility to contact the Elmwood Church Office 973-678-0055 or EUPCScholarship@gmail.com to schedule an alternate date.

The awards ceremony will be held on **Sunday, July 20, 2025 during the 9:30 a.m. service** at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church. Checks may be issued **jointly** to the applicant and parent/guardian.

SUMMARY OF CRITICAL DATES

Filing Deadline: Sunday, May 25, 2025

Interviews: June 15, 2024- June 29, 2025

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

Award Presentation: Sunday, July 20, 2025 during the 9:30 a.m. service.

ELMWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

Please print or type all information

Name: _____

Address:

Home Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

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

Parent or Guardian:

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: _____ Expected Year of Graduation: _____

(Transcript and Resume Required)

Please list school activities in which you have been actively involved or played a leadership role **(within 2024-2025 school year)**:

Please list any other activities, e.g., volunteer, civic, in which you have been actively involved, including offices held **(within the 2024-2025 school year)**:

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 two references who can attest to your character and verify your involvement in school, community, and/or church volunteer activities. **(NO FAMILY MEMBERS)**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

QUALIFYING ESSAY

Please answer the question below 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.

1. If you have volunteered at Elmwood or your local congregation, tell us about your experience and how it enriched your life.
2. Tell us about a community service project that you have participated in and the impact it had on those you served.

3. Tell us about your collegiate academic plans and how they will help you prepare for your career goals.

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 forfeit any award presented in the current year.

Applicant's Signature:

**Applicants under 18 years of age must have their parent or guardian sign below.
Parent/Guardian Signature:**
