Over $248,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED TO MEMBERS OF

FCSLALife

Insurance You Can Trust Since 1892.

24950 Chagrin Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44122 ● 1-800-464-4642 www.fcsla.org

COLLEGE AND POST-GRADUATE 2027-2028 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

1. An eligible applicant for a First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Fraternal Scholarship Award must meet the following qualifications:

   a. A member in good standing with the Association for a minimum of **three years** prior to date of application. The applicant must also hold **one of the following policies in their own name**: a permanent life insurance policy with a face amount of at least $1,000; a term insurance policy with a minimum coverage of $5,000; or an annuity certificate. Membership eligibility and policy requirements will be verified by the Home Office records.

   b. **Members currently enrolled in Z-Branches,** formerly known as Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWAA) - who meet all other eligibility criteria may apply for any available scholarships.

   c. Undergraduate applicants must select an **accredited college or university *in the United States*** and be enrolled full-time, at least **12 credit hours,** in a program leading to an associate or bachelor's degree. Post-graduate applicants must be enrolled full-time for at least **9 credit hours** in an accredited college or university in the United States.

   d. **Applicants may receive only one scholarship per category.** If you have already been awarded an undergraduate scholarship, you are not eligible to apply for an additional undergraduate award. However, if you previously received an undergraduate scholarship and are now enrolled in post-graduate school, you may apply for a post-graduate level scholarship. *Important Note: Recipients of a Vocational/Technical/Trade Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a College Scholarship.*

   e. **Use of Funds:** The award must be applied toward **school-related expenses** for the academic year for which it was awarded. Eligible costs include tuition, books, fees, and course- or degree-specific expenses, such as required supplies or equipment.

2. Application requirements:

   a. **Freshman applicants:** Submit an official high school transcript, including the most recent grading period, along with scores from any college entrance examination board tests (ex: ACT, SAT). If you are undecided about your school choice, place a check mark on the last page of the application just below the "Name and Address of College or University" field. A letter of acceptance—on the college's official letterhead—must be received by the Scholarship Department before any scholarship payment will be issued.

   b. **Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Applicants:** Submit your most recent official college or university transcript. If preferred, your school may send an official copy directly via postal mail or email—please indicate this choice on your application.

   c. **Autobiographical Statement:** Submit an autobiographical statement of approximately 500 words outlining your goals and objectives. The statement must also address the following:
      - Describe any leadership skills you have demonstrated.
      - Include one paragraph about your involvement in school activities.
      - Include another paragraph detailing your church or community service. Was your service voluntary or mandatory?

d. **Letter of recommendation:** Include one letter of recommendation from someone **other than a family member.**

e. **Photo Submission:** Include a wallet-sized photo (optional). It must be either:
   - a printed photo on photo paper; or
   - a .jpg attachment submitted electronically. Note: Photos must be of good quality to be eligible for publication.

f. **Submission Deadline:** All applications and supporting documents must be **POSTMARKED or electronically received by Tuesday, February 9, 2027.** Late submissions will not be considered. Materials submitted will not be returned.

   Applications and supporting documents may be submitted as a PDF file via email or sent via fax to (216) 464-9260, Attn: Scholarship Dept. For email submissions, please use the following address scholarship@fcsla.com.

3. 73 Fraternal Scholarship Awards will be awarded as follows:

Freshmen - $2,000 each	**Senior - $2,000 each**
Sophomore - $2,000 each	**Post-Graduate - $2,500 each**
Junior - $2,000 each	

4. **Selection and Award Process:** The final decision will be made by an independent Judging Committee composed of professionals in the education field. Scholarship recipients will be notified by letter during the **2nd week in May 2027**. The names of all winners will be published in the August issue of "Fraternally Yours." Award checks will be issued on or about July 1st in the name of the college or university and in the name of the student.

5. Send the completed application and all required documents to:

FCSLA Life
ATTN: Scholarship Dept.
24950 Chagrin Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122
E-mail: Scholarship@fcsla.com
Fax: (216) 464-9260

To contact the Scholarship Department:
Phone: (216) 464-8015 Ext. 1054 or (800) 464-4642 Ext. 1054

TERMS OF AWARD

1. **The award must be used solely for school-related expenses – such as tuition, books, fees, and course- or degree-specific supplies and equipment - for the academic year in which it was awarded.**

2. If a scholarship recipient withdraws from their program, the award must be returned to First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

3. Recipients are expected to comply with all regulations of their educational institution. This includes, but is not limited to, requirements related to residence and conduct, as deemed satisfactory by the vocational school, technical institute, or college.

4. The Board of Directors of First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association reserves the right to withdraw and cancel the scholarship if, in the judgment of both the Board and the educational institution, the recipient is no longer eligible to hold the award.

5. Members studying for the **Catholic priesthood or religious life** may be eligible to receive up to two (2) scholarships provide all qualifications are met and requirements fulfilled.

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Beachwood, Ohio 44122

2027 COLLEGE & POST-GRADUATE Fraternal Scholarship Application

_____
Home Office Use

For the purpose of establishing my eligibility for a scholarship award, I submit the following information which I represent to be true and complete. I have read in entirety the Rules of Eligibility and Terms of Award and I hereby accept and agree to said Rules and Terms.

I will be attending school <u>in the fall</u> as a (circle one):
Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Post-Graduate

My estimated graduation date is _____/_____.
Month Year

APPLICANT'S PERSONAL INFORMATION (please print or type)

Full Name:			
(first)	**(middle initial)**	**(last)**	**(maiden name)**
Home Address:			
(street)	**(city)**	**(state)**	**(zip)**
Social Security # (last 4 digits):		**Email:**	
Date of Birth:		**Telephone:**	
Father's Name:		**Mother's Maiden Name:**	

Eligibility Questions:
(Circle one)

1. **Have you ever received a scholarship in the <u>undergraduate</u> category from FCSLA?**
   a. Y N If yes, you are <u>not eligible</u> to apply for another <u>undergraduate</u> scholarship. (Rule 1.d.)

2. **Have you ever received a scholarship in the <u>post-graduate</u> category from FCSLA?**
   a. Y N If yes, you are <u>not eligible</u> to apply for another <u>post-graduate</u> scholarship. (Rule 1.d.)

3. **Is the college or university you will be attending located within the U.S.? Y N**
   If no, you are not eligible to apply for this scholarship. (Rule 1.c.)

4. **Will you be attending classes full-time as described below?**
   a. Undergraduate - 12 or more credit hours? (circle one) **Y N**
   b. Post-Graduate - at least 9 credit hours? (circle one) **Y N**

5. **Was your policy issued prior to February 9th, 2024? Y N**
   If no, you do not meet the eligibility requirements of Rule 1.a.

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6. **Please check all that apply:**
   _____ (1.) My official transcripts are enclosed
   _____ (2.) I will mail my official transcripts separately to FCSLA
   _____ (3.) Letter of acceptance is pending; I will mail to FCSLA upon receipt
   _____ (4.) My school will mail my <u>official transcripts</u> directly to FCSLA

Select One: ***(Your choice does not affect eligibility)***

____ I am attaching my photograph (a photo printed on photo paper or a .jpg attachment to an e-mail). If selected as a scholarship recipient, I would like it to be included in the FCSLA publication announcing this year's winners.

____ I elect not to include a photograph of myself. If selected as a scholarship recipient, no photo will be included in the FCSLA publication announcing this year's winners.

APPLICANT'S SCHOOL INFORMATION

	Name and Location of School	Dates of Attendance	Date of Graduation
High School			
College			

Applications and supporting documents must be POSTMARKED or electronically received no later than Tuesday, February 9, 2027.

With this Scholarship Application I have enclosed these requirements:
_____Official transcripts
_____Autobiographical statement
_____Letter of Recommendation
_____Letter of Acceptance or enrollment confirmation (if Freshman)
_____College entrance exam (ACT, SAT - if available)
_____Photo (if desired)

Application for scholarship and required documents should be mailed to:

FCSLA Life
ATTN: Scholarship Dept.
24950 Chagrin Blvd.
Beachwood, Ohio 44122
E-mail: Scholarship@fcsla.com
Fax: (216) 464-9260

I understand that this award must be used towards school-related expenses (e.g., tuition, books, fees, and course or degree-related costs (such as supplies and equipment required for specific classes) for the academic year for which it was awarded. (please initial) _____

I certify that the information on this form and the supporting documents are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the information will be considered confidential, for review by the Judging Committee. I consent to the filing of the application and accept the Rules of Eligibility and Terms of Award.

_____
Date

_____ _____
Signature of applicant | Signature of parent or guardian if under age 18

_____ _____
Mailing address of applicant | Mailing address of parent or guardian if different

TO BE COMPLETED AT HOME OFFICE

Certificate No.	Date Issued	Amount	Plan

Date of Membership _____ Verified by_____

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2027 COLLEGE & POST-GRADUATE Fraternal Scholarship Application

_____
Home Office Use

Student's **FIRST NAME ONLY**: _____

I am applying for a First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Fraternal Scholarship Award for the academic period beginning in the fall of year 20_____

I will be attending as a (circle one): Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Post-Graduate

Name and address of college or university selected within the United States_____

_____

◯ Check here if you are currently undecided.

TO BE COMPLETED BY JUDGING COMMITTEE:

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Category	Max Score	Actual Score
Academic Standing	40	
Church/Community Value	30	
School Involvement/Essay	30	
Total Points (must not exceed 100 pts)	100	

REQUIREMENTS:

a. **Letter of recommendation:** Include one letter of recommendation from someone **other than a family member.**

b. **Autobiographical Statement:** Submit an autobiographical statement of approximately 500 words outlining your goals and objectives. The statement must also address the following:
   - Describe any leadership skills you have demonstrated.
   - Include one paragraph about your involvement in school activities.
   - Include another paragraph detailing your church or community service. Was your service voluntary or mandatory?