



## **FCSLA LIFE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – FAQ’s**

### **Must the scholarship award be used towards tuition only? **\*\* NEW for 2024 \*\*****

No. Effective 2024, in addition to tuition, the scholarship award may now be used for the following school related expenses: Books, fees, course-specific or degree-related costs, such as supplies and equipment. The scholarship award must be used toward tuition and aforementioned expenses for the eligible academic year.

### **I am a member of FCSLA Life, but my child isn’t. Is my child eligible to apply for an FCSLA Life scholarship?**

No. Your child must be a member of FCSLA Life and meet the eligibility requirements on her/his own.

### **What constitutes an official transcript?**

An official transcript is one that is provided by the school, college, or university. It must bear the embossed or raised seal, date, and the school/college/university’s authorized signature. Student copies are not acceptable.

### **Which official transcripts do you need from my school?**

We need official transcripts for at least the current school year – for semesters completed in that school year. If the current year is unavailable, the previous school year is acceptable.

### **Do you accept electronic copies of scholarship applications?**

Yes, we accept both electronic (preferably PDF file) and faxed copies of application and supporting documents. Email address: [Scholarship@FCSLA.org](mailto:Scholarship@FCSLA.org); fax number is (216) 464-9260.

### **Are electronic copies of transcripts acceptable?**

If submitting electronic official transcripts, they must be sent directly from the applicant’s school with the school’s name, an official watermark or seal, and student’s name listed. Email: [Scholarship@fcsla.org](mailto:Scholarship@fcsla.org).

### **Can I have my school mail my official transcripts to the FCSLA Life home office directly?**

Yes. Please make sure you indicate on your application that the school is mailing your official transcripts, so we can look out for it. You also have the option to enclose it with your application. Physical official transcripts received from your school must be in a sealed envelope.

### **What if my official transcripts are not received by the Scholarship deadline?**

We understand that there may be a delay for some schools to provide transcripts. As long as we have the completed application form and other supporting documents by the scholarship deadline, we allow up to 1 week after the scholarship deadline for schools to provide the official transcripts.

### **I am undecided about which school I plan to attend or I am still waiting to hear from schools where I have applied. Will I still be considered if I receive a reply after the deadline?**

Yes. Indicate the names of the schools you are considering. If you are selected as a winner, you will be contacted and will need to provide your school choice at that time.

### **What happens to the applications that are received after the deadline?**

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The applicant will not be notified and the application will not be returned.

### **If I am selected as a winner, which school year can I use the award? Can I use it in the summer semester/quarter prior to the next school year?**

Scholarship funds must be used in the upcoming school year, beginning with the fall semester or quarter. Funds cannot be used in the summer semester, prior to or after the qualifying school year.

### **In the reference section on the college/graduate application, can I use instructors as substitutes for counselors and principals as references?**

Yes, you can – just as long as they have specific knowledge of your academic qualifications. They can also mail a letter of reference to the attention of the Scholarship Department.

### **Am I required to submit a letterhead copy of the document of acceptance to high school or college if I am currently attending the school I listed on my application?**

No. Only high school and college applicants in their freshman year (1<sup>st</sup> year) are required to submit acceptance letters from their respective schools.

### **I forgot to enclose my wallet-size photo with my application. Will I still be considered?**

Yes, you will still be considered. However, if you're selected as a winner, a wallet-size photo would be encouraged so it can be displayed with the other winners in our monthly magazine, *Fraternally Yours*. **It must be a wallet-sized photo, a photo printed on photo paper or a .jpg attachment to an e-mail when submitting electronically.**

### **How many times can I apply for a scholarship?**

You can apply as often as you like, just as long as you didn't already win in the category you're applying to. You can only win once in each category listed below:

- Early Elementary (Grades 1-4)
- Elementary (Grades 5-8)
- High School (Grades 9-12)
- College or Vocational/Technical/Trade
- Graduate
- Seminary

### **Can more than one person in a household apply?**

Yes, as long as each person meets the eligibility requirements. A family/household may not have more than two award winners.

### **I am currently a part-time student or will be enrolling as a part-time student. Do I qualify to apply?**

You must be currently enrolled or plan to enroll as a full-time student. We define full-time as 12 or more credit hours per semester or quarter (9 hours for graduate students).

### **I understand I must meet the 3-year membership requirement. How is this calculated?**

As long as you reach your 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of membership by the scholarship deadline, you may qualify.

**If I receive one or more sources to cover my tuition, am I still eligible to apply for an FCSLA Life scholarship?**

Yes. Effective 2024, FCSLA Life scholarships are no longer exclusively for tuition only. In addition to tuition, the award may now be used for these school related expenses: books, fees, and course-specific or degree-related costs, such as supplies and equipment.

**If I am selected as a winner, how long will it be before I receive my award check?**

Checks are usually sent to the winners in early July.

**I received my scholarship award check, but I changed schools or the school listed is incorrect. I need to have another check reissued with the correct school. What should I do?**

Please cross out the school name on the award check, then indicate the correct school name. Sign and date the correction prior to returning the check to the Scholarship Department. Once received, we will reissue a corrected check.

**I am a former member of the Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWAA); can I apply for this scholarship?**

Members from **Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWAA)** are not eligible for FCSLA Life scholarships at this time. Members from PWAA should contact the Scholarship Department at [Scholarship@fcsla.org](mailto:Scholarship@fcsla.org) or call 1-800-464-4642 ext. 1054 for other PWAA scholarship opportunities.