

2012-2013 EAST OHIO MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

GUIDELINES

The **East Ohio Merit Scholarship** is administered by the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry which awards scholarships to students based upon merit. The Board will award up to five (5) \$5,000 Scholarships. These are one year scholarships, yet a student may apply each year of their schooling. Notification of scholarship awards will be made to all applicants no later than **June 1, 2012**. **(Please do not call the office)**.

Questions concerning the **East Ohio Merit Scholarship** or other United Methodist scholarships and loans should be directed to *Rev. Gary W. Jones* at 800-831-3972 Ext. 120 or e-mail gary@eocumc.com with your questions.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IF TYPED OR SUBMITTED ONLINE

1. The student must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
2. The student must be an **active member** of a United Methodist Church in East Ohio, and admitted to or attending a United Methodist college or university for the 2012-2013 college year.
3. Each student applicant must be recommended by a local United Methodist Church. A form is attached for the student to give to their local church Administrative Board/Council. Form is to be filled out by church officers and returned to student.
4. The Student Application form **MUST** be completed by the student and not by a third party (such as parent). Attention and care should be given to spelling, punctuation, correct grammar and coherent content. It is recommended that the applicant request conversation and mentoring with their pastor or church lay leader as they create their essay.
5. **All materials** should be sent to **East Ohio Merit Scholarship**, 8800 Cleveland Avenue N.W., P.O. Box 2800, North Canton, Ohio 44720, **postmarked no later than March 23, 2012**. (There are **NO** exceptions to this deadline, please do not ask).
6. The student **MUST** submit ALL material for the application to be considered. A complete application will include:
 - _____ Student Application Form – with all sections completed. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
 - _____ Administrative Board Recommendation Form
 - _____ A personal letter of recommendation from a pastor or lay person (who is not a relative) who knows you well which states:
 - a) The length of time you've known the applicant
 - b) How you have worked/related with the applicant
 - c) Why you feel the applicant is deserving of a scholarship.

It is the **APPLICANT'S** responsibility to make sure recommendations and forms are submitted on time.

All scholarship application material should be postmarked by MARCH 23, 2012 and mailed to:

**East Ohio Merit Scholarship
8800 Cleveland Avenue N.W.
P.O. Box 2800
North Canton, OH 44720**

Administrative Board Recommendation Form

Dear Administrative Board Chairperson,

We are asking the Administrative Board of the local church of each applicant to interview the applicant and to consider a formal recommendation. **If the Board does not have a regular meeting prior to the scholarship deadline of March 23, 2012 then we do approve of this process being handled by at least the Ad. Board Chairperson, Pastor, and the church Lay Leader (or the local church Board of Higher Ed.).**

The Board, or the group of persons listed above, shall interview the student concerning his or her commitment to Christ, involvement in the United Methodist Church, career goals and college plans. It is our hope that every interview team will take seriously this responsibility and not sign these forms until said interview takes place (a phone conversation may also suffice when student is attending school away from home).

Please GIVE this completed form to the Applicant, so that they may turn it in with all their materials by March 23, 2012. PLEASE do not send separately!

It is not required of a church to contribute to the United Methodist Student Day offering for a student to receive an East Ohio Scholarship. However, such a contribution is strongly encouraged as the amount available for scholarships is related to contributions. If you have any questions, please contact *Rev. Gary W. Jones* at 800-831-3972 Ext. 120.

Sincerely,

East Ohio Scholarship Committee

This is to certify that the Administrative Board/or representative body of the _____ United Methodist Church located at (church address) _____ met on (date) _____ to recommend applicant _____ for an **East Ohio Merit Scholarship**.

The applicant was received into membership in this congregation on _____
Date

Board Chairperson's Signature

Board Chairperson's Printed Name

Pastor's Signature

Pastor's Printed Name

Pastor's Phone Number

Pastor's E-mail Address

2012-2013
EAST OHIO MERIT SCHOLARSHIP
Student Application Form

(Please type - applications will **not** be accepted unless they are typed or submitted online. All sections must be completed for consideration.)

Name in Full _____ Male _____ Female _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number (____) _____ Social Security# _____

E-Mail _____ GPA _____

Local Church: _____ District: _____

Church Address: _____

College/University _____

2012-2013 Class (circle one) College Freshman College Sophomore College Junior College Senior

1. Please list School Activities and Achievements/Honors:

High School:

College:

2. Please list Church Involvement (Local, District, East Ohio):

3. Please list Community Volunteer Service (not church):

4. List college honors, achievements and goals (applies only to upperclass students).

5. List of scholarships already received for the 2012-2013 year.

6. Briefly explain your financial need.

7. Career choice or major interests.

8. Please tell us how your faith journey has helped you. This essay should reflect upon your personal journey of faith through the following experiences of spiritual formation (as well as others that you feel have been important); prayer and study of scripture; worship with your local church congregation; mission/service experiences through your church and the larger community (examples: work camps, Scouting, Red Cross volunteer, volunteer in local hospital/nursing homes; tutor for young children, VBS). Write no less than 1500 words and not more than 3000 words using the suggestions above to tell us how and where you see God in your life and what God's presence means to you. Attention and care should be given to spelling, punctuation, correct grammar and coherent content. It is recommended that the applicant request conversation and mentoring with their pastor or church lay leader as they create their essay.