

**GRAND CHAPTER OF RHODE ISLAND
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
ESTARL SCHOLARSHIP REGULATIONS AND APPLICATION--2017**

Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership (ESTARL) Scholarship are awarded to applicants who are preparing for leadership in various fields of religious service, such as Ministers, Priests, Church Leaders, Directors of Church Music or Religious Education, and Counselors of Youth Leadership. Applicants **ARE NOT** required to have an Eastern Star or Masonic relationship. Only applicants with a GPA of 2.25 or higher will be considered for a scholarship.

Applicants for FIRST TIME ESTARL scholarships, regardless of year attending, must have the following attachments:

1. One signed letter of recommendation, on letterhead, from any of the following areas: Ministers, Church Leaders, an official endorsement of the religious group in the organized body in which the applicant wishes to serve, or from the accredited school in which the applicant is currently enrolled.
2. One signed letter of recommendation from an instructor at the college/university presently attending. The letter must include the name of the institution and be **written on official letterhead**.
3. One signed letter of recommendation from a person of the applicant's choice.
4. An unofficial transcript of grades or a copy of the most recent semester report, if attending a two year college, must be filed with the committee on or before June 15th deadline.
5. A typed, double-spaced essay responding to the prompt given (see attached).

If you have been denied a scholarship in the past and are reapplying, you must apply as a first time applicant.

Recipients of previous scholarships require the following:

1. Completed Application
2. An unofficial transcript of grades or a copy of the most recent semester report, if attending a two year college, must be filed with the committee on or before the June 15th deadline.
3. A typed, double-spaced essay responding to the prompt given (see attached).

No ESTARL Scholarship will be granted a first year college student unless she or he has been accepted by a Theological or Missionary Training School. Each applicant is required to give the detailed information requested on the application with proper signatures attached. When completed, the applicant must forward the application to the Educational and ESTARL Committee of the Grand Chapter at the address provided on the cover letter.

All applications with all supporting documentation **must be received on or before June 15th** to be considered. Email applications are **not** acceptable.

The committee reserves full right of decision on scholarship qualifications based on scholastic performance, need of financial assistance, and other pertinent information provided by the student. Awards may be variable in an amount determined by the Education and ESTARL Committee on the basis of fund availability, number of applicants, academic performance, and financial need of the individual. Personal interviews may be required at the discretion of the Committee. Awards, when granted, will be paid directly to the applicant to be used for books, tuition, board, medical aid, or other school related expenses.

The Order of the Eastern Star does not discriminate in the administration of granting these awards on the basis of age, gender race, color, national or ethnic origin, or religious belief. The data and correspondence relating to scholarship applications and their consideration, favorable or unfavorable, is strictly confidential and will be so regarded by all concerned.

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SECONDARY EDUCATION

1. High School: _____ Location: _____ Graduating Year: _____
2. Course of Study: _____ Rank in Class: _____ No. in Class: _____
3. Awards, extra curricula activities: _____
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COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

1. Name of college presently attending: _____ Location: _____
2. Are you applying for assistance for your __Freshmen __Sophomore __ Junior __ Senior year __ Graduate?
3. Course Major _____ 4. Intended occupation or profession _____
5. Name of college attending in the fall if **different from one presently attending**: _____
Location: _____ Reason for change: _____
6. Name/type of Religious Leadership you are currently pursuing, i.e.: Minister, Director of Liturgical Music, Youth Ministry, etc. _____
7. Have you been accepted to this institution of higher learning? ____Yes ____No
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CHURCH/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: _____

COLLEGE EXPENSES, ESTIMATED INCOME AND SOURCES OF INCOME

<u>College Expenses</u>		<u>Sources of Income</u>	
1. Estimated Tuition	\$ _____	1. Personal Savings	\$ _____
2. Room and Board	\$ _____	2. Applicant's Total Income	\$ _____
3. Books and Supplies	\$ _____	3. Parents/Spouse/Partner Financial Assistance	\$ _____
4. Other	\$ _____	4. Student Loan, this year	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	5. Other Scholarships, this year	\$ _____
		6. RI State Grants	\$ _____
		7. Federal/Other Grants	\$ _____
		TOTAL:	\$ _____

- A. Explain any unusual anticipated expenses (College or Personal): _____

B. Total amount of Student Loans incurred to date: _____
C. List names of other scholarships anticipated and amounts: _____

D. Give any other information that may be pertinent to the Committee in determining your needs for scholarship assistance. (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.) _____

E. How would a scholarship make a difference in meeting your educational goals? (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.) _____

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PLEASE BE SURE THAT THE APPLICATION IS SIGNED, REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AS LISTED ON THE REGULATIONS SHEET IS INCLUDED, AND APPLICATION IS RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE JUNE 15.

DIRECTIONS:

1. On a separate sheet of paper, write a 400 to 650 word essay on the following subsequent prompt.
2. Essay must be typed, double-spaced.
3. **DO NOT** include your name or other personal information on the essay.

ESSAY PROMPT

Explain the importance of your major in today's society.