

# First Lutheran Church

*Grounded in Christ*

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elca

## **First Lutheran Church Matching Funds Scholarship Policy**

### **Purpose:**

In an effort to support the mission of the Lutheran Colleges of the ELCA and provide an incentive for confirmed members of First Lutheran Church to attend ELCA colleges, First Lutheran church will provide scholarship support to those students who are accepted by or are attending ELCA Lutheran colleges.

### **Eligibility:**

**Only confirmed members of First Lutheran Church are eligible for this scholarship support.** They must be accepted for admission or enrolled in an ELCA Lutheran college. They can receive the support for up to 4 years if they are making satisfactory progress toward a degree (per academic standards established at each college).

### **Selection Process:**

Eligible students should submit a request to the First Lutheran Scholarship Fund committee by May 1<sup>st</sup> for the following academic year. '

### **First time applicants:**

- Applicants name, address, phone number and email address.
- A copy of the letter from an ELCA college indicating the applicant has been accepted for admission.
- A copy of the colleges matching scholarship funds requirements if available and the amount of funds that the applicant is requesting.
- A written statement explaining why s/he wants to attend that college and what the applicant expects the educational experience to contribute to the individual's future calling, profession, life and faith.

### **Repeat applicants must include:**

- Applicant's name, address, phone number and email address.
- A copy of the colleges matching scholarship funds requirements and the amount of funds that the applicant is requesting.
- Comments about academic performance that will demonstrate that the applicant is making satisfactory progress toward graduation (e.g. number of credit hours per term, grade point average).
- A written statement detailing what the Christian higher education has meant to their faith and personal development, specific experiences that have enriched their lives, and what they expect to learn and experience in the future academic year.

### **Scholarship Fund Awards**

In any year, the First Lutheran Scholarship Committee will review the applications and make recommendations to the Council for scholarship support for each applicant by July 1. Council approval is necessary for funds to be allocated.

Only those funds designated to the Scholarship Fund will be allocated. Funds raised by May 15<sup>th</sup> of each year will be available to fund scholarships. Funds allocated will be sent to the college by August 1.

The amount to be awarded to each individual student will depend on these factors:

- The number of students requesting funds
- The amount of funds available in the fund.
- The amount that each student has requested.

The applicant may request up to the amount of the matching grant limit indicated by the college they attend. An effort will be made to fund each student to the amount they request up to the maximum amount that each ELCA college will match. Awards will be of equal amount for all students selected for scholarship support.

### **Scholarship Fund Raising:**

The Scholarship Fund committee will facilitate fundraising efforts to support this fund and will encourage congregational giving to the fund by First Lutheran Members. The Church Council can make yearly budget contributions to the fund if they choose.

### **Scholarship Committee**

The Scholarship committee shall consist of no less than 3 and no more than 5 members. Committee members must be confirmed members of First Lutheran Church and not be family members of applicants who are presently seeking scholarship funding. Committee members will be approved by the Church Council. The committee will meet no less than twice a year. Once in the fall to set funding goals and facilitate the fund raising efforts and following the June 1<sup>st</sup> application deadline to determine scholarship awards and make recommendation to the Church Council for scholarship allocations.

## First Lutheran Scholarship Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a confirmed member of First Lutheran Church YES\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

ELCA College Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Attendance 20\_\_\_ \_\_\_Freshman \_\_\_Sophomore \_\_\_Junior \_\_\_Senior

Application Type: New Application\_\_\_ Renewal\_\_\_

Amount Requested \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Limit \$500 unless matching grant is more)

Does the college you plan have a matching grant program \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Limit of matching grant for the college you plan to attend \$\_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for notification to the college of your intent to use the matching grant program  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**New Applicants:** Submit with your application a written statement explaining why you want to attend that college and what you expect the educational experience will contribute to your future calling, profession, life and faith.

**Renewing Applicant:** Submit with application prove a academic performance in the previous year and a written statement detailing what Christian higher education has meant to your faith and personal development, specific experiences that have enriched your lives, and what you expect to learn and experience in the future academic year.

Application is due May 1<sup>st</sup> for the following academic year.

Send to:

First Lutheran Scholarship Committee

Attn: Kim Adler

First Lutheran Church, 100 Peace Ridge, Lake City, MN 55041