

Smith Trust Scholarships Procedures

The Helen J. Smith Trust provides scholarship funds each year for members who attend college. The trust specifies that seminary students are given priority, and if no seminarians apply then any “member in good standing” may apply for these funds. This is defined in the Constitution and Canons as follows:

CANON I.17.2-4

Communicants

Sec. 2 (a) All members of this Church who have received Holy Communion in this Church at least three times during the preceding year are to be considered communicants of this Church.

Communicants in Good Standing

Sec. 3. All communicants of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing.

A student may apply for funds any time during the year and the deadline for all applications will be August 1. The scholarship committee will meet in August to review applications and determine award amounts. The final amount of funds available is not known until July or August of each year, and final award amounts will be determined upon notification from the trust officer of the bank. It is expected all awards will be equal in amount. Awards will be a minimum of \$500 and maximum of \$2000. Currently additional funds are in reserve and can be used to supplement the amount produced by the Trust if the committee finds this to be necessary. Vestry approval will be needed to disperse reserve funds. At some point in the future when reserve funds have been depleted, all awards will be limited to the proceeds generated on a yearly basis. The Trust (Bank) specifies that all funds will be disbursed only to the college and not directly to the student.

A committee of members of the church as well as at least one person who is not a member of Grace and St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church will review the applications and make the awards. The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility:

Applicants will be members in good standing of Grace and St. Stephens Episcopal Church at the time of initial application. Students under age 23 who are attending school out of this area will be considered in good standing if their parents are members of Grace and St. Stephen’s. Preference will be given to students who are under age 23 attending a vocational or undergraduate program.

Applications will contain the following information:

- The student’s institution of higher learning and expected major course of study.

- The student's goals and how a scholarship from the Smith Trust will help to achieve them.
- The student's involvement with Grace and St. Stephen's and how this shaped him/her as a person.
- A copy of the most recent transcript or grade report. Students on academic probation are not eligible for the scholarship.
- Two letters of recommendation, one of which is from a recent teacher or counselor/student advisor.

The scholarship will be advertised in the spring each year through announcements in *Tidings* and announcements from the pulpit.