

Policy for Mount Olive Presbyterian Scholarships

Approved by Session: August 25, 2024
Committee: Administration, Personnel & Planning

Scholarship Criteria:

Tinker and Frances B. Best Scholarship (tuition)

- Student must be a member of Mount Olive Presbyterian Church, and be engaged in the life of the church during his/her high school years.
- Student must be enrolled in or accepted to an accredited community college, four-year college or university.

Virginia Baker Scholarship (tuition)

- Student must be a member of Mount Olive Presbyterian Church, and be engaged in the life of the church during his/her high school years.
- Student must be enrolled in or accepted to an accredited college or university that is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA). A list may be found at <http://www.presbyteriancolleges.org>

Kornegay Scholarship (textbooks or technology)

- Student must be a member of Mount Olive Presbyterian Church, and be engaged in the life of the church during his/her high school years.
- Student must be enrolled in or accepted to an accredited community college, four-year college or university.

Eligibility:

Best and Kornegay scholarships are renewable over a total of four years to students earning undergraduate degrees.

Virginia Baker scholarships are open to students in undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as those seeking certifications for called roles of service within the greater church. These scholarships are renewable for up to six years.

Although all scholarships are renewable, students must reapply each year.

Procedures:

Applications are available on the church website, <https://mountolivepresbyterianchurch.org/>. Students should complete, save and email the application as directed on the form.

The Administration, Personnel & Planning (APP) Committee will set the application deadline each spring, usually in April, in order to accept and process all applications for the fall semester at one time. Awards for the Best and Virginia Baker scholarships will be paid directly to the schools on or near July 15.

However, students enrolling for the first time in spring or summer terms are free to submit scholarship applications as soon as they have received their acceptance letter and decided to enroll.

Once applications for scholarships are received, the APP Committee will review them and decide on scholarship recommendations. The Committee will take into account the amount of money available in the scholarship funds and the health of the funds for future scholarships. For this reason, scholarship

amounts may vary from year to year. Scholarships will not be recommended for individuals who have not completed applications and provided all the required information.

The APP Committee will make its recommendation for awards to the Session, and the Session has the final authority on approving the scholarships. The Session will communicate its decision to the Chair of the APP Committee.

The Committee will notify the scholarship recipients of their awards and inform the recipients what documentation and information is needed in order to send the awards to their destinations.

All three scholarships require proof of enrollment. This may be shown in the form of a tuition bill, or a class schedule as generated by the college or university. A student's planner or personal electronic calendar is not proof of enrollment.

The Kornegay scholarship is designed to help students buy textbooks. In addition to proof of enrollment, it requires the address to which the award check should be mailed in order to reach the student directly. Students may prefer to direct the check to their on-campus address rather their home address, and should indicate this at the time the checks are to be written. If no other address is given, the address provided on the scholarship application will be used.

The Best and Virginia Baker scholarships require 1) a tuition bill as generated by the college or university and 2) the appropriate information that tells Mount Olive Presbyterian Church where to send the award funds. These funds are sent directly to the college or university for tuition and do not pass through the students' hands. Many colleges and universities have separate offices set up to receive outside scholarships or funds sent from a source other than the student. Most bills generated by colleges and universities will contain a section detailing multiple ways to pay that includes this information, or will direct a reader toward this information elsewhere.

Scholarships are awarded for an academic school year. Depending on the size of the award, the Committee at its discretion may choose to pay the full amount of the scholarship at the fall semester. In cases where scholarships are paid over two semesters, students must provide proof of enrollment for each semester in order to receive both halves of the award.

Once all supporting documentation has been received, the Committee Chair will submit to the Finance Committee a check request for each scholarship and recipient, with the correct supporting documentation, the mailing address at each university in the case of the Best and Baker scholarships, or the student's address in the case of the Kornegay scholarship. The Committee will remind students to submit the documentation again for the subsequent semester if required.

It is suggested that students send a note of thanks to the MOPC congregation for their scholarships.