

ARTICLE I

Lodge #70 Gene Leonard Scholarship Fund

- Section 1. The Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #70, will provide three (3) one year scholarship awards each year in the amounts of \$1,500 for first place, \$1,000 for second place and \$500 for third place to applicants related to a members or deceased members in good standing of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #70.
- Section 2. A scholarship committee will consist of three or more members, with one being the Chairperson. The committee members appointed by the Lodge president will be active board members of Lodge #70.
- Section 3. The Lodge President or their designee of Lodge #70 will investigate the applicant to ensure the applicant has met the minimum qualifications of this article listed under section 8 "Applicant Qualifications". The sponsor of the applicant will ensure the scholarship application, essay, and any other correspondence the applicant wishes to share with the scholarship committee is provided to the Lodge President or their designee by the close of business on June 1st of that year. Once the President or their designee has determined the applicant has met the minimum qualifications, the Lodge President or their designee will either mail or electronically forward the scholarship application, essay, and any other correspondence to the Committee Chairperson, along with a statement attesting these requirements have been met. If an investigation was not completed by the Lodge President or their designee, the scholarship application will not be accepted by the Scholarship Committee.
- Section 4. The Scholarship Committee Chairperson will not have a vote in the selection of the scholarship winners. It will be the responsibility of the Chairperson to receive all scholarship applications, essays, and any other correspondence the applicants wish to share with the scholarship committee from the Lodge President or their designee. All essays will be edited by the Committee Chairperson so that the identity of the writer remains anonymous to the committee members during the selection process. Each essay will be assigned a number that will identify the writer to the committee and their submission. The Chairperson will either mail or electronically forward each committee member all essays submitted. When each committee member has made their individual selection, they will rank the submissions and return their findings to the Chairperson. The Chairperson will tabulate the results and identify the winners. The Chairperson will maintain a file of all applicants and essays until the winners are announced and through the next regularly scheduled Lodge #70 meeting.
- Section 5. The Committee Members will be the sole judges of the essays. They will assist the Chairperson in the selection of the yearly essay topic. They shall also be prepared to meet and discuss any issues that may arise during the selection process.

Section 6. Lodge #70 will begin accepting scholarship applications and essays on April 1st of each year and end on the close of business on June 1st of that same year. The topic for the essay will be announced at the regularly scheduled Lodge #70 meeting in the month of March.

Section 7. The Scholarship Committee will announce the winners at a regularly scheduled Lodge #70 meeting as soon as practical. The winners will be notified as soon as possible after the selection process and prior to the July meeting so the scholarship winners can notify their respective schools and be present at the meeting to receive their award.

Section 8. Applicant Qualifications:

1. The applicant must be a son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandchild step grandchild, or a child of a legal guardian of an active member or deceased member in good standing of Lodge #70. The phrase "Active Member in this section will be referred to and appear on the scholarship application as "FOP Sponsor".
2. The applicant must be a graduating high school senior, or an active full time college student or trade school student enrolled at a regionally accredited college or university or trade school.
3. The applicant must provide Lodge #70, Gene Leonard Scholarship Committee with proof of acceptance to the institution they plan to attend.
4. The applicant does not have to be seeking a degree in Criminal Justice or law endorsement.
5. The applicant must write an essay on a subject selected by the Scholarship Committee
6. The essay will be a minimum of 1500 words and maximum of 2000 words.
7. Applicants must submit completed applications and essays. Any submissions that are not complete will not be considered in the competition.

- Section 9. The Scholarship Committee will make the Lodge #70 application available to all members of the lodge through social media and the Lodge #70 monthly meetings.
- Section 10. Any winning applicant may compete in the annual scholarship competition provided they are seeking an undergraduate degree, or a technical certification and they are full time students.
- Section 11. This scholarship award is a one-year scholarship.
- Section 12. This fund will continue, and awards will be provided so long as it is financially feasible for Lodge #70 to maintain it. Should the fund become depleted, and the Lodge is unable to replenish it, the awards will cease until such time as the funds can be re-established.