



BEACON OF LIGHT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

(Please detach and keep this until completely checked off)

- Pull up application (from church website) and save it to your computer
- Read application instructions fully
- Complete application (Do not include pages 2-5 with submitted application)
- Attach picture
- Submit recommendations
- Submit transcript / acceptance letter
- Submit personal statement
- Submit documents showing the required hours of community service
- Submit completed application by 1/25/2026

If awarded a scholarship:

- Submit class schedule or letter of verification/enrollment to scholarship chairperson **(BEFORE 10/31/2026)**:

Beacon of Light Community Scholarship Fund
Second Baptist Church
1717 Benson Ave
Evanston IL 60201
C/o Audrey L. Epps, Scholarship Chairperson
OR
BOL@secondbaptistevanston.org

****KEEP THIS SHEET FOR YOUR RECORDS****

BEACON OF LIGHT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**Second Baptist Church
1717 Benson Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201**

Reverend Dr. Michael C. R. Nabors, Pastor

BEFORE COMPLETING, PLEASE READ THIS APPLICATION IN ITS ENTIRETY!

1. Applicants requesting financial aid should direct all applications and questions to:
Beacon of Light Community Scholarship Fund
Second Baptist Church
1717 Benson Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201
Telephone: 847-869-6955
C/o Audrey L. Epps, Scholarship Chairperson
OR
BOL@secondbaptistevanston.org
2. A complete application must include all of the following:
 - A. An official transcript (copies not accepted) **REQUIRED**
 - B. Letters of recommendation (as required) **REQUIRED**
 - C. A typed one-page personal statement **REQUIRED**
 - D. A recent **individual** photograph (**no group pictures**) **REQUIRED**
 - E. Documents showing the required 40 hours of community service during the past 4 years **REQUIRED**
3. Applications must be **typed or printed** neatly.

Incomplete applications will NOT be considered for financial assistance.

(Please make a copy of your application for your own files.)

The deadline for submitting applications is **Sunday, January 25, 2026, by 12:00 p.m.**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION!!!

Beacon of Light Community Scholarship Fund Guidelines Revised October 2025

I. Eligibility

- A. All scholarship applicants must be graduating high school students (from Evanston or Skokie) who are **not members** of Second Baptist Church, Evanston, IL.
- B. Awards not claimed by October 31, 2026, **will be forfeited**.
- C. Persons are only eligible to receive a scholarship award a total of **one (1) time**.
- D. Applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. A high school graduating senior who has been accepted for admission (**as a full time student**) to a college, university, community or technical/vocational college.
 - 2. Must have a cumulative 2.5 GPA (on a 4.0 scale)
 - 3. **Must not** be a member of Second Baptist Church
 - 4. Must reside in Evanston or Skokie and have a MINIMUM of 40 documented community service hours during their 4 years in high school. In addition, at least 60% of this service must have occurred within the Evanston or Skokie community.
 - 5. Must submit the following information:
 - a. A completed application
 - b. Three letters of recommendation (see section E. for explanation)
 - c. Official school transcripts
 - d. Recent **individual** photograph (**no group pictures**)
 - e. Documents showing the required 40 hours of community service during the past 4 years
- E. Letters of Recommendation
All letters of recommendation must be from an **independent third party** (i.e., non-relative) which includes that person's name, job title, and day or evening phone number.

1. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation: one (1) from a high school teacher or counselor, and two (2) from current organizations (within the past two years) where the applicant served as a volunteer. The Letters of Recommendation must come from a supervisor or advisor within the organization.

F. Application Materials

1. A completed application may **ONLY** be submitted via the following:
 - Sent via U.S. Post Office. **(Faxed copies WILL NOT be accepted.)**
 - Hand delivered to Scholarship Chairperson
 - Hand delivered to Ladies Auxiliary church mailbox
 - E-mailed to BOL@secondbaptistevanston.org
2. Transcripts and letters of recommendation may be sent directly from the school to Second Baptist Church at the address listed above, attn: Scholarship Chairperson. However, it is the **applicant's responsibility** to ensure receipt **BEFORE** the deadline.
3. Recent **individual** photograph (**no group pictures**)

II. Scholarship Award Distribution

A. Required Documentation

1. Student must submit either class schedule or a letter of verification/enrollment from the Registrar's Office for the upcoming semester/quarter.

B. Award Deadline

1. Documentation (as described in Section A above) must either be submitted to the Scholarship Chairperson, post-marked to the address listed above or e-mailed to BOL@secondbaptistevanston.org no later than January 25, 2026.
2. Awards not claimed by October 31, 2026, **will be forfeited.**

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED EITHER BEFORE OR ON THE DEADLINE DATE AND TIME. APPLICATIONS AND/OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUBMITTED SUBSEQUENT TO THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED!!!

III. Financial Awards

A. Scholarships

1. Scholarships are awarded annually from the Beacon of Light Community Scholarship Fund. Decisions made by the Scholarship Committee are final and confidential.

IV. Presentation Awards

- A. Scholarship recipients will be announced publicly on Scholarship Sunday (March 8, 2026). The actual monetary award will be issued upon receipt of required documentation outlined in Section II above.

V. Scholarship Selection Committee

The following committee will review applications and select the recipients of the Beacon of Light Community Scholarship.

Sandra L. Blanchard

C. Louise Brown

Audrey L. Epps

Dorothy Headd

Deloris Watson

1. Name _____
Birth Date _____
Student ID # (if applicable) _____
Present Mailing Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____
Email _____
2. Name of Parent/Guardian _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____
3. Name and Address of College, University, or Technical/Vocational School
you plan to attend:

A. Have you been accepted? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, attach a copy of your Letter of Acceptance)
Intended major/minor: _____
4. List your extra-curricular activities: include work, school,
community (leadership positions, if any).

5. List any awards that you have received.

6. In the spaces below, please provide names, address and telephone numbers of the three people from whom you have received letters of recommendation.

A.

Name	Position
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Address/City/State/Zip	Phone #
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B.

Name	Position
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Address/City/State/Zip	Phone #
------------------------	---------

C.

Name	Position
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Address/City/State/Zip	Phone #
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Signature _____ **Date** _____

Personal Statement

Please **TYPE** a personal statement concerning your community service and why you believe that you should be awarded this scholarship. Please attach your typed statement to the application (in the section provided). Statement should be no longer than ONE PAGE in length.

PERSONAL STATEMENT