



The Lyons Scholarship Application

Updated January 2026

**Deadline for returning completed application:
March 2, 2026**



805 Crest Drive
Gardendale, Alabama 35071
205-631-7631

RULES AND INFORMATION

The Benefactors

J.T. and Carolyn Lyons were dedicated members of the church and career educators. Through their generosity to the church at their passing, and by designation of their will, this scholarship is made possible. Not only were they career educators with a heart for Christ, their church, and the education of young persons, they were also incredibly generous toward funding this scholarship. It is the desire of their heirs and family that this scholarship be perpetual. We will do everything in our power to make sure this scholarship is funded well into the future.

The Scholarship Team

The Scholarship Team will be comprised of nine to twelve members in good standing of the church. They shall be nominated by the church Nominating Committee and approved by the Administrative Council. It is the responsibility of the Scholarship Team to review and update rules for administering the scholarship and choosing persons who are awarded scholarships.

Who Is Eligible to Apply for the Scholarship?

Only persons who are actively, currently, and regularly involved in and supportive of the life and ministry of HOPE CHURCH will be considered for a scholarship. Persons who are interested in college or graduate school are eligible to apply. Persons of any age who might have special needs or circumstances are eligible to apply. The Scholarship Team has the authority to decide eligibility.

How Often Will Scholarships be awarded?

Scholarships will generally be awarded once per year in the Spring. Funds available will partially dictate the frequency and number of scholarships awarded. Applications will become available on February 1 and must be returned to the church by March 3. **Applications returned after March 2, 2026 will NOT be accepted (no exceptions).**

What Will the Amount of the Scholarships Be?

Amounts will be determined by many factors such as available funds, number of applicants, and special needs or circumstances. The Scholarship Committee has the authority to determine amounts and number of scholarships awarded.

How Many Times May the Same Person Apply?

Individuals may apply for 5 consecutive or non-consecutive years. However, grace may be offered for special needs or extenuating life circumstances.

First Time Applicants: Please follow the instructions on Page 3.

Those who are Re-Applying: Please follow the instructions on Page 4.

How do I return my scholarship?

Bring or mail them to the church office at: HOPE Church, 805 Crest Drive, Gardendale, AL 35071, or email a PDF version to sbaccus@hccommunity.org. **They must be RECEIVED by 12:00 Noon on March 2, 2026.**

IMPORTANT: If your school offers matching scholarships, please let us know and we will be glad to work in cooperation with the school's deadlines.

NEW APPLICANTS:
PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY

1. Please have your official grade transcripts sent to Hope Church, 805 Crest Drive, Gardendale, Alabama 35071, attn: Scholarship Team. If there are no grade transcripts available the Scholarship Team asks for a written explanation of "why?"
2. Please submit a typed, double-spaced three to five page essay which lets the Scholarship Team know "who you are." Include: Your faith journey in Christ, your philosophy for life, your future plans, how much THIS church means to you, and how this scholarship will help you. Applicants who have special needs and circumstances may obtain help in writing the essay.
3. Please submit a small photo of yourself along with your essay.
4. Please be available for an interview by the Scholarship Team.
5. Please return this page along with your essay.

IMPORTANT: If your school offers matching scholarships, please let us know and we will be glad to work in cooperation with the school's deadlines.

Full Name: _____

Current Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Last grade or degree completed: _____

Extracurricular Activities: _____

Scholarships Already Awarded: _____

THOSE WHO ARE RE-APPLYING:
PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY

Please write a **brief** (no need for a long response) essay and include the following:

1. Overall, how are things going in your life and in your educational journey?
2. What classes have you taken, and which ones have made the deepest impact on your journey? How are your grades?
3. What have you learned in the last year? These might be things you have learned academically, or just life lessons along the way.
4. How is your academic life impacting you and your family?
5. How have you grown spiritually? What opportunities for Christian worship and growth have you taken? Do a little self-evaluation: Where are you in your walk with Christ?

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