



ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
1033 WEST PARK AVENUE, OCEAN, NJ 07712



AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS OF 2026

St. George offers a diverse selection of scholastic awards and scholarships that are sponsored by generous donors to graduating High School Seniors who are planning to pursue ongoing studies or training on the college, vocational, or trades level.

In order to be considered, it is required that the applicant's family be members in good standing of St. George Greek Orthodox Church of Ocean Township, NJ. Submissions must be fully complete with all required documents, transcripts, test results (if taken), letters of recommendation, and essays. Applications must be submitted to the St. George Church Office no later than **Friday, May 1, 2026**. An awards ceremony will immediately follow Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 28, 2026. Please make every effort to attend.

Scholastic Awards and Scholarships are offered every year to eligible students. There are three levels of Awards and Scholarships, including: 1) graduating high school seniors; 2) undergraduate students; and 3) graduate level students. Please note that students may only apply **one time** per academic level. Multiple submissions at the same level will be ineligible.

Incomplete applications that do not adhere to the requirements will be deemed ineligible. Please note the following requirements and regulations below:

- 1. The deadline for all applications is firm. Incomplete applications and supporting documents will not be considered if received after the deadline.*
- 2. Applicants will only be considered for the award/scholarship that is indicated by a checkmark on this application, and for which there is a corresponding essay. Please note the award/scholarship name at the top of each essay.*
- 3. All information presented and included with each application shall be kept confidential and shared among the scholarship committee members during the selection process.*
- 4. To ensure a fair consideration process, the names of the applicants are redacted, and each application is reviewed blindly by the committee and scored on a rubric scale. Committee members do not know the identity of the applicant prior to and during the reviewing and scoring process. Applicants are asked to refrain from placing their names anywhere other than where indicated in this application.*
- 5. Please note that there may be specific criteria for each award/scholarship listed. Please ensure that you meet those criteria before choosing to apply. Please refer to the descriptions under each award/scholarship heading for reference.*
- 6. Please apply to a **maximum of three (3)** awards/scholarships per category. There are five (5) categories (A-E).*
- 7. Submitted applications must use this application form. Modification of this application will result in ineligibility.*
- 8. Digital applications will not be accepted. Applications in their entirety can either be mailed or dropped off at the Church Office.*



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SCHOLARSHIPS 2026

Please indicate the Award/Scholarship for which you wish to apply by checking the appropriate box. Pick no more than three (3) per category (A through D). Please refer to the descriptions under the various Award/Scholarship headings to review the specific criteria for each, and apply to only those that relate to you and/or your field of study. Attach the corresponding essay(s) of 250-300 words maximum; remember to write the Award/Scholarship name at the top of each essay. Please do not place your name on essays.

Category A: General

- Aleka Vassilia Damiano Agape Memorial Scholarship**
Amount: \$500
Criteria: None.
Essay: How has a small act of kindness on your part made a large change in someone's life and in your own life?
- George N. Arvanitis Family Memorial Scholarship**
Amount: \$500
Criteria: For students heavily involved in athletics.
Essay: In your high school athletic career, how were you able to make a difference in a teammate's life?
- George S. Michals Family Memorial Scholarship**
Amount: \$1000
Criteria: None.
Essay: How has the St. George Community influenced your life, and how do you plan to give back to the Community?
- Angelo M. Gregos Family Memorial Scholarship**
Amount: \$500
Criteria: None.
Essay: How has the St. George Community influenced your life, and how do you plan to give back to the Community?
- Helen Michalopoulos Memorial Scholarship**
Amount: \$500
Criteria: For students with special needs and unique challenges.
Essay: Please describe how your special needs/challenges have impacted your everyday life and education. How have you been able to persevere despite these challenges?



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Poulos Family Memorial Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: The qualified applicant must be an active member of GOYA.

Essay: How has the St. George Community influenced your life, and how do you plan to give back to the Community?

Tsarnas Family Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: The applicant will be looking to attend undergraduate studies in an accredited college in the United States.

Essay: Please share why you feel that you merit this scholarship, and how you will use this scholarship to financially assist with your college expenses. Please explain the role of faith in your life.

St. George Scholarship

Amount: \$2,000

Criteria: This Scholarship is based on merit, and will be awarded to one exceptional student who excels academically, participates in extracurriculars and/or sports, and has exhibited leadership roles.

Essay: Explain what has driven you in your achievements thus far, and how you plan on using this drive toward your future goals. Please include how your faith has influenced your life.

Category B: Business

Bess C. Peterson Memorial Vocational Award

Amount: \$500

Criteria: For students planning to pursue a vocation, trade, or apprenticeship.

Essay: How will pursuing a vocational education or trade empower you to shape your future and contribute to your community?

James A. Pavlides Memorial Scholarship

Amount: \$750

Criteria: For students who have an interest in obtaining a degree in business or divinity, and who are planning to attend St. John's University or New York University (not required).

Essay: Please provide a description of your proposed endeavors.



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Kosmas Family Vocational Award

Amount: \$500

Criteria: For students planning to pursue a vocation, trade or apprenticeship.

Essay: What vocation/trade do you plan on achieving? How do you see this vocation/trade shaping your future? How will you be able to use this to give back to your community?

Category C: AHEPA, DOP, and Philoptochos

AHEPA Thomas Edison Chapter #287 Family Scholarship

Amount: \$500-1500

Criteria: The applicant's father and/or grandfather must be a current active member of AHEPA in good standing for at least the past two years. Applicants will be considered on the basis of scholastic achievement and participation in school and church community activities. Minimum GPA that will be considered is 3.0, and a combined SAT score of 1150, or an ACT score of at least 23. The applicant must be accepted to an accredited four year college/university.

Essay: Please write an essay on Hellenism by indicating the ways in which your Greek heritage has helped and guided you.

Alice Nicas & Mary Papageorge Philoptochos Memorial Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: The applicant's mother and/or grandmother must be a current active member of Philoptochos in good standing for at least the past two years. In addition, the applicant must be a student graduating high school and entering the first year of college to pursue a bachelor's degree. This scholarship will be awarded based on financial need and academic merit as well.

Essay: Please describe what the meaning of philanthropy is in your life.

Daughters of Penelope Aulis #195 Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: The applicant's mother and/or grandmother must be a current and active member in good standing of the Daughters of Penelope Aulis 195 Asbury Park Charter for at least the past two years. The recipient will be chosen based on extracurricular activities, level of involvement and leadership roles, as well as grades and academia.

Essay: Please explain a leadership role or other extracurricular activity in which you were involved during the last four years that has influenced you. How will this help you in your future education?



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Category D: Inspiration

Into the Light Community Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: None.

Essay: Please describe how mental health has affected your life or someone you know, and how can you help make a difference?



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CHURCH INFORMATION

List all church organizations and activities in which you have participated (e.g., GOYA, Sunday School, Acolyte, Choir, Greek School, Fundraising, etc.). Include titles held (if applicable), awards or special recognition, and dates.

Activity _____ Title _____ Award/Recognition _____ Date _____

TRANSCRIPTS AND TEST SCORES

1. Please make arrangements to have all official transcripts sent from your high school(s) before the application due date to the church office, or enclose the official transcript in your application package.

2. Please indicate if you have taken the SAT or ACT, the date, and the score that you received. Please enclose a copy of your results with your application package.

Test _____ Date _____ Score _____

3. What is your GPA and class rank (if known)? _____

4. Have you taken college courses? If so, please list: _____



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COLLEGE PLANS

1. What is your planned primary field of study or intended major?

2. What is your planned secondary field of study or minor (if applicable)?

3. What career/profession are you currently considering?

4. What interests you about this career/profession?

5. As of this date, to what colleges or vocational schools have you applied and been accepted?
Please asterisk (*) the college/school that you plan on attending.

6. Please share the reasons for your decision to attend your chosen school.



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FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. What are your anticipated yearly college costs?

Tuition: _____ *Room and Board:* _____
Transportation: _____ *Misc./Other:* _____

2. How do you plan to finance your education? Please be specific and complete.

3. Please list any financial hardships that should be taken into consideration by the Committee.

4. Please list the names and ages of other children in the family and the school that they attend along with tuition amounts (if applicable).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Tuition Amount</u>

RECOMMENDATIONS

Please list the names and information of three individuals who will be providing your recommendation letters. Two may be professional staff members from your high school. Parents may not be references. You must attach the full written recommendations, or have them sent directly to the church office by the application deadline.



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1. Name: _____ Position/Relationship: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

2. Name: _____ Position/Relationship: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

3. Name: _____ Position/Relationship: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

STUDENT CHECKLIST

Please make certain that all of the following items are included in your submission.

- Completed student application form
- Essays
- Letters of recommendation
- School transcripts
- SAT/ACT results (if applicable)

PERSONAL ATTESTATION

I herewith submit that the content and statements provided on this application in its entirety are true and accurate.

Applicants Signature: _____ *Date:* _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ *Date:* _____

In order to be considered, this application and all requested documents must be received by the St. George Greek Orthodox Church office by Sunday, May 1, 2026.

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church
1033 West Park Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712
Attention: St. George Scholarship Application, High School

*If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office at
732-775-2777.*