

Panhandle State Foundation

Frequently Asked Scholarship Questions

1. **Where can I get a Panhandle State Foundation Scholarship Packet?**
At the Foundation Office (SL 207 on the OPSU campus)
Download packet at www.opsu.edu at the Foundation's page
Ask your High School Counselor
2. **When are scholarship applications accepted?**
Applications are accepted December 1 through March 1 annually.
(If March 1 falls on a weekend, the deadline is moved to the next work day.)
Applications must be in the Panhandle State Foundation Office by 4:30 p.m. on March 1st or received through the mail postmarked no later than March 1st to be accepted.
3. **Where do I send my completed applications?**
Applications should be mailed to:
Panhandle State Foundation
PO Box 430
Goodwell, OK 73939
All applications can be mailed in same envelope. (Applications in envelopes postmarked after March 1st will not be accepted.)
Applications can also be hand delivered to the Foundation Office (SL207) until 4:30 p.m. on March 1st.
4. **What is the easiest way to apply? Where do I start?**
Read through the scholarship list and decide how many scholarships you are eligible to apply for. Fill out the application form - except for the name of scholarship applying for line - and make as many copies as scholarships you want to apply for and then fill in the name of scholarship line. You will need a copy of your unofficial transcript, proof of ACT or SAT score, and any other requested documentation for EACH application.
5. **I don't have a copy of my ACT / SAT score?**
We encourage you to attach your score if at all possible. If you are applying for a scholarship that states a particular score to be eligible and do not attach one, you will not be considered for that scholarship. If you never took the ACT or SAT or are unable to attach it, please write "N/A" on the score line.
6. **What GPA score do I use?**
The application asks for your cumulative GPA. High school students, please state your non-weighted cumulative GPA (figured on a 4.0 scale).
Current OPSU students owing a bill may not be able to obtain an unofficial

transcript. Please ask the OPSU Registrar's Office to send a copy to the Foundation Office where it will be attached to your applications when you submit them.

7. Why do I have to fill out more than one application?

The Panhandle State Foundation scholarships are selected by numerous committees. Each committee would like to see your complete application to make an informed selection.

8. Why do I have to use a different application form to apply for the Guymon Masonic Scholarship and the Guymon Panhandle Lions Scholarship?

These clubs require a special application because they ask financial questions that are not on the Foundation application. These applications are available in the Foundation Office, online at www.opsu.edu and from HS counselors.

9. What information should I put in my personal letter? Is it required?

A personal letter is *required* for several scholarships (please check listing) but *recommended for all*. The personal letter is your only chance to present any pertinent information about yourself to the selection committee. Feel free to use list, letter or resume form.

Suggested information to include: honors, awards, work experience, current status, future goals, financial status/need, etc. Basically, you want to give the committee your background information, current information and your plans for the future.

10. For the based on need scholarships, what do I put in the personal letter?

For the based on need scholarships, a personal letter is required. “Need” is viewed subjectively for these scholarships. The committees will select based on the letter you submit. Please explain your personal circumstances of need.

Need: a circumstance that is causing extra financial struggles for you or your family.

Examples: siblings in college, family or personal medical expenses, supporting a family while attending school, child care expenses, divorce, surgeries, not qualifying for federal or state grants, parents unable to help finance your schooling, disability affecting you or a family member, involvement in campus activities limiting the number of hours you can work, unemployed, unexpected transportation problems, etc.

11. How many Foundation scholarships can one student apply for?

There is no limit on the number of applications per student. Students should apply for all scholarships that they meet the requirements for.

12. **How and when will I be notified of the selection results?**
Notification is sent to the address supplied on the application after all scholarships selections have been made. All applicants will be notified by mail. Letters are usually sent in late April or early May. All scholarship selection results will be included in one letter.
13. **What do I do if I am selected for a scholarship?**
Your award letter will contain the award process. Scholarship checks are written jointly to you and the university each semester. You then must sign the check and take it to the OPSU cashiers window to have it deposited on your account. If your account is paid, OPSU will issue you a refund check. First semester checks are usually available beginning September 1st. You will be required to have your picture taken and write a thank you note to your scholarship donor. Second semester checks are available in February after number of hours enrolled in is verified.
14. **Do you report Foundation scholarships to the OPSU Financial Aid Office?**
Yes.
15. **What do you do with my applications after the process is over?**
All applications are destroyed.
16. **How do I apply for the university scholarships offered by OPSU?**
The university has a separate form for their academic scholarships. Please visit www.opsu.edu for the application or call the OPSU Office of High School and Community Relations at 580-349-1396 or 580-349-1312.
17. **Are University scholarships the same as Foundation scholarships?**
No. University scholarships will be directly applied to your account whereas the Foundation scholarship checks must be picked up by you from the Foundation Office. Students are encouraged to apply for both.

For more information call: 580-349-1392 or 1-800-664-6778 ext. 1392
or email: foundation@opsu.edu.