

Phi Beta Kappa Scholarships

Covering Full-tuition and Mandatory Fees

Phi Beta Kappa Society scholarships from the Gamma chapter at WSU recognize and foster excellence in liberal learning at the undergraduate level. Qualified, successful applicants can receive a generous award for their senior academic year at WSU. The scholarship covers full resident/in-state tuition and mandatory fees for the academic year following application.

Applications for Awards

The Gamma chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society typically offers scholarships in spring for the upcoming academic year. These awards cover **full resident/in-state tuition plus mandatory fees** for that academic year. In keeping with the Society, these scholarships are intended to **“recognize and foster excellence in liberal learning at the undergraduate level.”**

These guidelines for applicants are available on this webpage as a downloadable pdf.

Application Period and Deadline

Applications are typically sought in spring semester at WSU. The deadline for the current application period is April 1, 2021. All materials to be considered as part of a full application packet must be received by then.

Selection, Interview, and Award Notification

The Scholarship Committee, which consists of faculty and staff members in the local Gamma Chapter at WSU, conducts the awarding of the scholarship. Race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, national origin, and religion are of no consequence in determining eligibility for this award.

Applicants judged most eligible for scholarships will be interviewed personally by the Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship Committee. Awardees will be notified before the end of the spring semester 2021.

Eligibility Requirement

Students applying for an award must:

- Have **senior class standing** for the upcoming/next academic year following application
- Have certified a **major** in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication, the School of Economic Sciences, the Department of Human Development, the Program in Neuroscience, or the School of Molecular Biosciences
- Have a **cumulative GPA of 3.6 or higher** through the fall semester preceding the spring application

- Submit a **completed application packet** by the closing date listed

Application Requirements and Procedures

Eligible applicants have responsibility to make sure all parts of their application packet are complete when they are submitted to the PBK Scholarship Committee for review. Applicants prepare and submit two (2) parts themselves (online form and personal statement). They must also request others prepare and submit two (2) additional parts of the packet (recommendation letters and transcripts).

The applicant must use a [scholarship application form](#) provided on the Gamma Chapter's website to enter information that includes:

- Current contact information (e.g. full name, address, etc.)
- Details about your academic pursuits and performance and engagement in extracurricular activities and organizations while at WSU
- The granting of your consent to have the Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship Committee contact the WSU Office of the Registrar to obtain your transcripts for review.
- Information about how you have financed your education at WSU.
- An uploaded **Personal Statement** no longer than two (2) pages double-spaced about you and your education that address these three (3) points:
 1. Phi Beta Kappa stands for freedom of inquiry and expression, disciplinary rigor, breadth of intellectual perspective, the cultivation of skills of deliberation and ethical reflection, the pursuit of wisdom, and the application of the fruits of scholarship and research in practical life. What is the value of a liberal education that fosters these ideals?
 2. In what way(s) is your education preparing you for a career?
 3. How have you financed your education to this point?
- The names, titles, and email contact information for three (3) faculty members or others who will be sent an automatic email request for **Recommendation Letters** to be submitted by the application deadline (April 1, 2021). The email will detail the type of information to be included and provide instructions to the Recommenders on how they can upload their letters to the WSU Gamma Chapter website. Please note that at least two (2) of your Recommenders should be able to comment on your academic performance and capabilities.

Questions?

Kimberly Holapa, Gamma Chapter Chair of the Scholarship Committee, will respond to questions about the Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship application and process. Send an email to her at holapa@wsu.edu, or phone her at **509-335-2884**.