**2025 Scholarship Instructions**

The Oklahoma Central Foundation is committed to helping members of Oklahoma Central Credit Union and the community with educational expenses through its annual scholarship program. The Foundation will award scholarships each year to industrious students planning to continue their undergraduate education at institutions within the state of Oklahoma.

***Eligibility***

To be eligible for a scholarship:

* Applicants must be accepted and enrolled at a college, university in pursuit of an undergraduate degree, or trade school certification/degree in Oklahoma
* Applicants must be a citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States, a legal resident of the State of Oklahoma, or a member of Oklahoma Central Credit Union
* Applicants must be at least 16 years old
* Applicants must have a minimum of 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale
* Applicants must be continuing as a full-time undergraduate student attending a college, university, or trade school program in Oklahoma for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic semesters*. If scholarship money is awarded, this is the only program that will receive the funds on behalf of the applicant.*
* Applicants must submit a completed scholarship application with accompanying materials by the designated deadline

***Purpose of Scholarship***

To provide financial assistance to a student with an interest in pursuing continuing undergraduate education in any field.

***Timeline***

* Scholarship applications are due **April 4, 2025**
* Applicants will be notified, if awarded a scholarship, by **May 16, 2025**

***Award***

* The recipients will be notified by email and/or phone by May 16, 2025
* Scholarship proceeds will be distributed directly to the student’s institution of choice in July, 2025
* Scholarships will be awarded as $2,000 scholarships

***Application Process***

The following guidelines must be followed in order for your application to be considered for this scholarship:

1. Submit completed application form. All items on the form must be completed and submitted along with a typed 400-500-word essay (double-spaced using 12-point font) that answers the following topic:

**How do you believe enhancing financial literacy programs in schools can better prepare students for real-world financial challenges, and what specific changes would you recommend to improve their effectiveness?**

1. Submit a copy of your letter of acceptance at your undergraduate university, community college or trade school program (or)
2. Submit a copy of your official certified transcript from the school you are currently attending or last attended.
3. The scholarship application form, letter of acceptance, transcript and essay may be submitted via one of the following ways:
	1. At any Oklahoma Central branch location (package needs to include “TO THE ATTENTION OF: Janna Harding” on the outside)
	2. Mailed to:

Oklahoma Central Foundation

Attention: Janna Harding

PO Box 471227

Tulsa, OK 74147

* 1. Emailed to scholarships@oklahomacentral.org

***Selection Process***

Recipients will be selected by the Oklahoma Central Foundation Scholarship & Grant Committee based on application materials provided. Recipients will be notified of the committee’s decision by **May 16, 2025**. The scholarship award will be made to the recipient’s school of choice upon notification and in accordance with the school’s scholarship guidelines.

Questions?

If you have questions or need further information, please contact us at scholarships@oklahomacentral.org.

**2025 Scholarship Application Form**

*PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION IN BLACK OR BLUE INK.*

Applicant’s name **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Applicant’s complete address **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

City/State/Zip **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Home phone **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Cell phone**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Applicant’s Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Applicant’s COLLEGE Student ID#\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Graduation date from high school **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Date of birth **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Cumulative GPA **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

High school name **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

High school address **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** School Phone **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Date entering (or entered) college **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Name of institution (university, community college, trade school, etc.) you will be attending Fall, 2025 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Area of study **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

School address**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

School phone **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

School bursar phone **­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Parent’s name **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Address **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

City/State/Zip **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Phone or email address  **­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***School/Community Activities***

List all academic, athletic, or other extra-curricular awards or honors received. Attach a separate sheet, if necessary.

List all activities and organizations, including honorary and elected. Attach a separate sheet, if necessary.

List all community service activities. Attach a separate sheet, if necessary.

List any employment experience beginning with your present position, if applicable.

**Employer Dates Employed Position**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

How did you hear about Oklahoma Central Foundation’s Scholarship Program? **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

### STATEMENT OF ACCURACY & PLAGIARISM DISCLAIMER

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me to the Oklahoma Central Foundation is true, correct and without forgery. I understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to Oklahoma Central Foundation’s scholarship guidelines, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

I declare that this submission is my own work and that in every case where I have drawn on the work of any other author, this is fully and specifically acknowledged in the text of my submission and the works cited in the appended list of references.

Signature of scholarship applicant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Witness\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The deadline for this application to be received by Oklahoma Central Foundation**

**is April 4, 2025 by 5:00 p.m. *No exceptions!***

**ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS & CONSENT TO PUBLISH SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

THAT I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, do hereby give Oklahoma Central Foundation and/or Oklahoma Central Credit Union full rights to publish my name, where I live (city, state, and country only; actual street addresses and phone numbers will not be disclosed), my pertinent family information, college I am attending, photographs that I have provided and college update information. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the Oklahoma Central Foundation Scholarship Program.

I understand that by execution of this agreement, I am relinquishing my rights to any future compensation for reproduction, publication or use of the above information by Oklahoma Central Foundation and/or Oklahoma Central Credit Union in its print or electronic correspondence or on its website.

I hereby specifically waive my right to review or approve THE MODIFICATION of the above Information. (Modifications may be made to accommodate size or content restrictions. Modifications will not be made to “distort” or “falsify” any information provided.)

I understand that this Agreement in no way obligates Oklahoma Central Foundation and/or Oklahoma Central Credit Union to publish or use the above-described information.

**EXECUTED this date of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**By:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Print Name)

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

**Witness:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

 (Print Name)

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

**Plagiarism Guidelines**

**WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?**

The term plagiarism comes from the Latin word for kidnapper, plagiarist. It means taking credit for ideas or words that aren’t your own. It’s a form of stealing. A person who plagiarizes another’s work is committing theft of intellectual property. These are some examples of plagiarism:

• Buying, stealing or borrowing a paper

• Hiring someone to write your paper

• Copying from another source without citing (on purpose or by accident)

• Cutting and pasting text or graphics from Internet sources into your paper

• Building on someone else’s ideas without citation

• Using the source too closely when paraphrasing

Your essay submission will be a combination of information you borrowed from others’ work and your own ideas. Even though you make use of other people’s work, the writing tone and style should “sound” like you—your own analysis, explanation, or conclusions, in your own words.

**WHEN TO DOCUMENT SOURCES**

You can incorporate information from your research into your paper in these ways:

• Briefly restate the main idea of an entire work in your own words (summarize)

• Restate a source’s idea or ideas in detail (paraphrase)

• Include a word-for-word quotation from the source

Whenever you use words or ideas borrowed from other sources (books, magazines, newspapers, songs, movies, Web pages, etc.) you must acknowledge the original author’s work by including appropriate documentation.

Sometimes documentation isn’t necessary. The table below shows examples of different types of information and whether you need to provide documentation.

Documentation IS required:

• Summaries, paraphrases or direct quotations from a source

• Reprints of diagrams, illustrations, charts or pictures

• Little-known facts

• Other people’s opinions

• Results of other people’s research (opinion polls, case studies, statistics)

• Quotations or paraphrases from people you interview

Documentation is NOT required:

• Common knowledge (facts that can be found in many places and are likely to be known by a lot of people)

• Your own ideas, opinions or conclusions

• Your own research (surveys or observations)

**TECHNIQUES FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM**

* When you are researching, taking notes, and interviewing, record the relevant documentation information in your notes accurately and completely.
* Indicate in your notes which ideas are taken from sources and which are your own thoughts or insights. Be sure to keep this distinction clear in your submission.
* Put all words borrowed from sources inside quotation marks. In your notes, you might want to circle the quotation marks, so you’ll be sure to include them in your paper.
* When paraphrasing or summarizing information from a source, use different words and sentence structures than the original text.
* Tip: Reread your source until you understand it. Write your paraphrase or summary without looking at the original text, using your own words and phrasing. Next, check your version with the original. Make corrections for clarity, accuracy, and mistakenly borrowed phrases.
* Keep the source’s name near quotations and paraphrases in your notes and in your paper. Mention the person’s name either at the beginning or the end of the passage.
* Document all quoted material, paraphrases and summaries of your sources. Full publication information should be included in your list of sources at the end of your submission.
* Document any facts that are disputed or not common knowledge.
* Document all opinions, conclusions, statistics, pictures, charts or graphs taken from your sources.