

IPA 2026 Scholarship Award Program

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By **Michael Jackson**
Chairman Scholarship Committee

In 1994, the IPA Board decided to implement the annual scholarship award program. There were two dominant reasons for this decision:

1. To offer a recruitment incentive to prospective new members of the Illinois Police Association.
2. To reward our current members for their continued commitment and support for the organization.

On January 16, 2004, the Scholarship Committee held a meeting and reviewed the guidelines of the program. These guidelines were approved by the IPA Executive Board on April 6, 2004 to administer the program in a more efficient and effective manner for the benefit of our membership.

This information is being published to educate applicants and as a guideline for division officers during their review and processing of all required documentation.

All division chairmen will receive a copy of these guidelines and are expected to follow them to that their applicants receive proper consideration for the award. Any and all questions regarding eligibility should be directed to the corresponding division chairman. The scholarship committee of the Illinois Police Association will ultimately review all submitted applications for compliance and has the final decision regarding the awarding of scholarship funds.

The scholarship committee has worked hard to ensure the success of this ongoing program and asks that the following rules are strictly followed. Thank you for your consideration.

Eligibility:

1. A child (natural or legally adopted), regardless of residency, of an Active or Active Paid Up life member or a stepchild who resides in the same household of the IPA member. The applicant must be under the age of 24 as of November 1 of the corresponding scholarship year.
2. The member must be in good standing with the IPA for least one year prior to the date of application.
3. The scholarship applicant must be a full time student carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester or an equivalent number of hours per quarter in an undergraduate capacity.
4. Full time nursing students who meet the above criteria are eligible to apply.

Persons who are not eligible:

1. IPA members or spouses.
2. Students in a trade, industrial or graduate school.
3. Part time students carrying less than 12 credit hours per semester or an equivalent number of hours per quarter.

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Eligibility will be predicated upon each division's roster of Active or Active Paid Up life members as of May 1 of the current year. No transfer of members to a different division will be made within 12 months prior to the deadline for application submissions (November 1 of each year) for the purpose of benefiting in the scholarship award program. Applicants may apply to only one division.

Scholarship Expenditures:

1. The current award will be \$500.00 per school year per student. Each eligible student in a family may apply.
2. Award winners may reapply annually.
3. The Illinois Police Association, Inc. will remit one lump sum payment of \$500.00 to award winner. The payment will be made after the division chairman submits the winning application with all necessary supplementary documentation to the IPA office. All winning applications will then be reviewed and ultimately approved by the scholarship committee.
4. Each of the 13 divisions of the IPA will receive one scholarship annually (if so submitted) at a cost to the association of \$6,500.00

Procedure for Selection:

All applications will be collected and screened by each division for eligibility and the submission of all necessary documentation. After proper verification, the division board will prepare the names of all candidates for a random drawing. The winner will be drawn by the chairman at a regular meeting of the division no later than the 30th day of November in the corresponding year. The chairman will also draw the name of the one alternate winner who will not be announced.

Should the announced winner be ineligible for any reason then the alternate be awarded the scholarship and announced at a later date. Divisions should retain all submitted applications in event that the alternate is also found ineligible and yet another winner may have to be selected.

The winning application with all supportive documentation will be forwarded to the IPA office by the division secretary no later than December 15. Pending the receipt of all documentation in a timely manner, announcements of the official winners will be made by the chairman of the scholarship committee at the earliest scheduled board meeting.

If any division fails to submit the name, an eligible winner no scholarship will be awarded to said division. Winners of the scholarships will be eligible to reapply the following year.

Verification of Eligibility:

The following must accompany all applications:

1. A copy of the applicant's current class schedule.
2. A copy of an invoice or statement from the bursar's office indicating full or partial tuition payment.
3. A copy or printout of a financial instrument electronic or other document showing full or partial tuition payment.

Important Deadlines to Remember:

- *November 1 - Application due to division chairman
- *November Division meeting -Random drawing
- *December 15 -Winning application due at IPA office

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ILLINOIS POLICE ASSOCIATION INC.

2026 Scholarship Award Application



Please type or print legibly and do not omit any information.

To be completed by the student applicant:

Date of Application: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____
Last First Middle

Social Security Number _____

Birthdate Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Home address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____ Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____ College Residency Phone: (____) _____ - _____

College or University Name: _____ College or University Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Major Field of study: _____ Relationship to IPA Member: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

To be completed by the IPA Member:

Name: _____ Membership Card Number: _____ IPA Division: _____

Home address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____ Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Department or Agency: _____

Department or Agency address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip code: _____

Signature of IPA Member: _____

All information will be held in strict confidence by the Illinois Police Association.
The award will be payable directly to the qualifying student so as not to interfere with any other type of financial assistance.

The following MUST accompany the application submission. Please indicate with a check accordingly.

- A copy of the applicant's current class schedule.
- A copy of an invoice or statement from the bursar's office indicating payment or full or partial tuition.
- A copy or printout of a financial instrument electronic or other document showing full or partial tuition payment.

The completed application and required documentation must be submitted to the DIVISION CHAIRMAN no later than November 1st of the current year. Questions? Please call the IPA office at 708 452-8332

Division Chairman: _____ Date received: _____