

Junior Achievement of Western PA Achievement Scholarship

Students in grades K-11 living within the boundaries of or attending a low-achieving school district that will attend a participating private school providing JA programming and fulfill the below requirements are eligible for this scholarship worth from \$1,500 up to \$3,500.

2023-2024 Eligibility Requirements:

- Students must reside within the attendance boundary of a low-achieving school- **Parent Notification Letters must be sent with the application. (Contact student's home base school for appropriate letter)**
 - To find a list of low-achieving schools, visit www.education.pa.gov for Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program to download a list of eligible schools.
- Students must be continuing their education at a participating nonpublic school that provides JA programs and is located in a school district outside of the recipient's school district of residence.
- GPA of 2.5 or higher
 - Two quarters required upon initial entry and maintained as final grades may be requested for winning recipients.
- Students must meet the scholarship program requirements as set forth by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) through the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) program. **See Attached** or Visit dced.pa.gov or www.juniorachievement.org for more information.

To Qualify, Students Must Submit:

- A completed application form: legible and signed by parent/guardian **and** student.
- A copy of student's transcripts or most recent report card showing grades from at least two quarters/one semester. ****Final Grades** grade may be requested and required from all winning applicants.
- One Teacher recommendation
- Applicants **MUST SUBMIT a 2023 Federal 1040 Form** for every adult in their household with their application in order to be eligible for the scholarship. Student must be listed as a dependent to qualify. (Add Additional Dependent Worksheet if Applicable)
- To determine residency, applicants must provide a copy of one of the following or a similar document to prove their permanent resident status:
 - Utility Bill
 - PA Driver's License
 - Voter ID Card
 - Military ID Card
 - Pay Stub from place of employment
- Complete an essay submission that answers the following question:

Name at least 3 basic principles/concepts of financial literacy and provide a suggestion or resource for how someone can build or improve upon those skills?

- Student's grade level determines submission requirement, which are as follows:
 - K-1 – draw a picture
 - 2-3 – write 50 word essay
 - 4-6 – write 150-200 word essay
 - 7-12 – write 250 word essay

Send the above information, postmarked **no later than Monday, April 1, 2024**, to your designated JAWPA Region.

*Due to the large number of applications, we receive, we are unable to return any of your materials.

No application materials will be accepted after the April 1, 2024, deadline.

Winning students will be notified by mail in late May. Results are posted on our website in the first week of June.



Junior Achievement of Western PA Achievement Scholarship

Junior Achievement is proud to be able to offer these scholarships to students in western Pennsylvania! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your area JAWPA Education Department Representative. Call or click the hyperlinked name of your JA area representative to connect via email. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support!

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN (Alleghenies Region) SEND APPLICATIONS TO:

Attention: [Doug Knepper](#)
Junior Achievement of Western PA: Scholarships
416 Main Street Suite 300
Johnstown, PA 15901
412-226-5751

ERIE (Northwest Region) SEND APPLICATIONS TO:

Attention: [Latoyia Guerrant](#)
Junior Achievement of Western PA: Scholarships
90 Emerson Lane, Suite 1403
Bridgeville, PA 15017
412-347-8483

PITTSBURGH & GREENSBURG (Metro Region) SEND APPLICATIONS TO:

Attention: [Latoyia Guerrant](#)
Junior Achievement of Western PA: Scholarships
90 Emerson Lane, Suite 1403
Bridgeville, PA 15017
412-347-8483

Junior Achievement of Western PA Achievement Scholarship

OSTC Scholarship Income Guidelines

In accordance with the household income guidelines* of the state of Pennsylvania's Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program (OSTC), please find below information for any student applying for the **Achievement Scholarship** through Junior Achievement.

Updated OSTC Guidelines:

For the 2023-2024 school year, to be eligible for scholarships, families of students must have an adjusted gross income of \$108,444 or less with an additional \$19,088 adjustment for each dependent living within the same household.

Number of Dependents	Maximum AGI
1	\$127,537
2	\$146,620
3	\$165,708

An eligible student is a school age student residing within the attendance boundary of a low-achieving school, including an eligible student with a disability, who is a resident of Pennsylvania, who is enrolled in a school located in this commonwealth, and who is a member of a household with an annual household income of not more than \$108,444 with the acceptance of an additional income allowance of \$19,088 permitted for each student or dependent (as defined by the IRS) living within the same household.

To be considered an eligible student with a disability, a student must meet the following criteria:

- (1) is either enrolled in a special education school or has otherwise been identified as a "child with a disability" as defined in Title 34 CFR §300.8;
- (2) need special education and related services;
- (3) is enrolled in a school and
- (4) is a member of a household that does not exceed the maximum annual household income.

"School age" ranges from the earliest admission age for a school's kindergarten program (or if the school has no kindergarten program, the earliest age at which the student may begin school), through the age attained upon graduation from secondary school or 21 years of age, whichever occurs first. With respect to an eligible student with a disability, multiply the sum of \$108,444 plus the allowance(s) of \$19,088 per student or dependent, by the support level factor of 1.50 if the student is not enrolled in a special education school or by the support level factor of 2.993 if the student is enrolled as a student in a special education school.

A household includes an individual living alone or an individual living with the following:

- a. a spouse, parent and their un-emancipated minor children;
- b. other unemancipated minor children who are related by blood or marriage; or
- c. other adults or unemancipated minor children living in the household who are dependent upon the individual.

To qualify, applicants must submit proof of income for all adults in their household where they are a dependent.

For more information regarding OSTC program, search or follow the link to visit:

dced.pa.gov to see parents/student frequently asked questions (FAQS) and/or dced.pa.gov/OSTC to find additional information for the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Document that provides guidelines, list approved Opportunity Scholarship Organizations, and updated list of underperforming schools.



Junior Achievement of Western PA Achievement Scholarship

2023-2024 Student Information (Please print or type all information)

Title Student First Name Student Last Name Age D.O.B. (mm/dd/yyyy)

Mailing Address

Number/Street

City

State

Zip Code

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Area Code + Best Contact #

Lats 4 digits SSN

Parent Email (print clearly)

School Information

Current Grade Level:

Low-Achieving Public School/District (Allocated District):

Current School you are attending:

Current School Address:

School you will be attending:

School Address:

If the applicant decides to attend a school other than the school listed above, the applicant **must notify Junior Achievement in September 2024*

Application: This application becomes valid only when you have signed and submitted **ALL** the following items in **ONE** envelope.

Checklist

___ Application Form

___ Copy of report card (**2 Quarters**)

___ Teacher Recommendation

___ Verification of Income (**Copy of 2023 IRS-1040**)

___ Proof of Residency

___ Typed Personal Essay

___ Parent Notification Letter (proof of low achieving school boundary)

** Note: Applicants (and their families) that apply for this scholarship must meet the household income guidelines as stated by the PA Department of Community & Economic Development- Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program- OSTC. (dced.pa.gov)*

Certification

We acknowledge that we have read and understand the eligibility requirements. All the information furnished in support of this application is true and complete. If requested, we will submit proof of the same. Failure to do so shall invalidate this application and shall result in termination of scholarship.

Signature of Applicant
(Must be signed)

Date

Signature of
Guardian
(Must be signed)

Date

This application becomes valid when signed and all items on the above checklist are provided in one envelope and are submitted:

At the attention of the Applicants Designated JA Region Rep as specified above to:

Junior Achievement of Western PA: Scholarships

All Applications **Must Be Postmarked No Later Than Monday, April 1, 2024.** NO Exceptions.



Junior Achievement of Western PA
Achievement Scholarship

2023-2024 TEACHER RECOMMENDATION
(may be submitted on separate page if preferred)

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Classes Taught: _____

Teacher Recommendation: _____

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____