

Beneficent Church Scholarship Application

Academic Year 2026 – 2027

DUE DATE: April 27, 2026

Beneficent Congregational Church (also referred to as Beneficent Church or the Church) encourages its members to further their education and professional development, and makes scholarships available to those pursuing degrees at accredited not-for-profit post-secondary colleges or universities, or career development and enrichment opportunities at accredited vocational or technical schools.

The scholarships are awarded by the Beneficent Scholarship Committee (the Committee) without regard to race, age, socio-economic class, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

Endowment Scholarship Funds

Beneficent Church has four endowments that are used for scholarships: Capron Fund, Chapin Fund, Ferko Fund, and Maxfield Fund. These endowments are designated to provide scholarships for Church members who actively participate in Church life and have demonstrated motivation for learning.

The maximum award amount is **\$9,500** for full-time students or **\$4,750** for part-time students. (Scholarship awards are based on availability of funds, so award amounts may change from year to year).

Housing Usage: Recipients may use their scholarship award partially or wholly toward housing costs, provided they meet the following criteria:

1. The student must be prohibited from living in a campus dormitory due to specific institutional rules or policies.
2. The student must provide a letter from the school's housing or registrar's office confirming this restriction. This housing support is specifically intended to bridge the gap when a student's other grants or financial aid packages are restricted to tuition and fees and do not cover room and board.

Status Definitions:

- **Undergraduate:** Full-time is 12+ credits; Part-time is < 12 credits.
- **Graduate:** Full-time is 9+ credits; Part-time is < 9 credits.

Scholarship Awards & Priorities

A scholarship award is for a specific academic year and not a guarantee for future years; award recipients must re-apply for each year of support and demonstrate continued eligibility.

- If sufficient funds are not available, the Committee will prioritize undergraduate applicants over graduate school, professional, vocational, or continuing education applicants.
- The Committee will consider graduate/professional applicants if they are (i) attending divinity school or (ii) studying topics related to human services, education, or nursing.
- Professional certification or continuing education will be awarded up to half of the part-time amount for one year.

Eligibility Requirements

A. The applicant/student must be a member of Beneficent Church and must demonstrate active involvement or willingness to do so. Involvement may include: teaching/assisting in Christian Education, Youth Group, Church Council, ushering, choir, or community service projects (e.g., Better Lives RI).

B. Scholarships must be used to attend an accredited, not-for-profit, post-secondary college/university, or accredited vocational/technical school.

C. Applicants must maintain a **GPA of 2.0 or higher** in each term to qualify for a scholarship in the following term. There is a lifetime cap of scholarship support equal to the cost of seven (7) full-time years of study.

D. Applicants are strongly encouraged to be actively involved in Church during school vacation times.

Important Dates

- **Monday, April 27, 2026:** Application due date.
- **Friday, May 15, 2026:** Scholarship recipients notified).
- **September 1, 2026:** Scholarship checks mailed.
 - Checks are mailed only after recipients provide: Course registration, billing statement, and final transcript of preceding term .

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APPLICANT INFORMATION FORM

Name: _____ (Last, First, Middle)

Date of Membership: _____

Gender Identity/Pronouns: _____

Address: _____
(Street, Apt, City, State, Zip)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

EDUCATIONAL PLAN

Institution Name: _____
(Must be accredited not-for-profit college/university or vocational/technical school)

Status: Full-Time Part-Time (Undergraduate FT=12+ credits; Graduate FT=9+ credits)

Current Cumulative GPA: _____ (Must be 2.0 or higher)

Housing Support: Yes, I am requesting funds for housing.

(I have attached the required letter from the school confirming I am prohibited from living in a dorm) .

APPLICATION CHECKLIST (Please check all that apply and attach documents:)



Beneficient Congregational Church, UCC
300 Weybosset Street
Providence, RI 02903-3731
Tel 401.331.9844 | Fax 401.331.0021
www.BeneficientChurch.org

[] **Completed Applicant Information Form** (this page)

[] **Most recent Transcript** (High School or College)

[] **Group Involvement Form(s)** (Signed by Committee Chairs)

[] **Letter of Recommendation** (*Required for NEW applicants only*)

[] **Personal Essay** (Typed, 250-300 words). Please attach the appropriate essay:

- **New Applicants:** Introduce yourself, explain why Beneficient is meaningful to you, and how this scholarship helps your goals. (*If member <12 months, include your vision for future active involvement*) .
- **Renewal Applicants:** Update your educational progress and share your continued involvement in Beneficient Church.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

GROUP INVOLVEMENT FORM



Beneficent Congregational Church, UCC
300 Weybosset Street
Providence, RI 02903-3731
Tel 401.331.9844 | Fax 401.331.0021
www.BeneficentChurch.org

Beneficent Church scholarships are provided to Church members who have a demonstrated motivation for learning and have had an active commitment to the Church for at least one year.

Instructions:

- **Members > 1 Year:** Complete one form for **each** Church-based activity.
- **New Members (< 1 Year):** Do not complete this form unless you have already joined a committee or group beyond attending worship.

Applicant Name: _____

Church Group or Committee Name: _____

Level of Participation (Circle one): Weekly | Monthly | Occasionally

Comments:

Signature of Committee Chair/Church Leader: _____

Name of Chair/Leader (Print): _____ **Date:** _____