

Kiwanis Club of Pinellas Park Scholarship

The Kiwanis Club of Pinellas Park is accepting applications for two scholarship opportunities for high school seniors during the 2026-2027 school year. Scholarships may be awarded to applicants who satisfy all eligibility requirements and are selected by the scholarship committee. One scholarship has an award amount of \$500 and is intended for a student planning to attend a trade, vocational, or technical school. A second scholarship has an award amount of \$2,000 and is intended for a student planning to attend a four-year college or university. Any scholarship awarded may be used for school-related expenses incurred during the summer or fall terms of 2027 (no gap year).

Criteria for eligibility:

The minimum GPA requirement for this scholarship award is 2.5 unweighted. Because Kiwanis is a service organization, special consideration will be given to the student's community service accomplishments.

The recipient must be a Pinellas County, Florida resident at the time of application and at the time the scholarship is awarded.

The student must be a high school senior.

If the student is chosen as a finalist, they must have a school administrator send us a transcript or other documentation to verify the student's GPA. This does not need to be provided at this time. We will notify the student if they are a finalist and provide information on how to submit the documentation.

The students awarded a scholarship must provide proof of an admission offer, acceptance of the offer, and enrollment, prior to receiving the award. The student must enroll in the year in which the award is granted (no gap year). The school to be attended must be accredited by an accreditation agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or the US Department of Education.

The deadline for applications is January 31, 2027. Finalists will be notified by March 15th and will be expected to participate in a short, in-person interview. The final scholarship recipients will be notified by May 1, 2027.

In order to be considered for the scholarship, the applicant should submit a document/documents, in word or pdf format, which contains the information described on the following pages. Please read the instructions carefully and ensure all parts are included in your submission.

Applications should be submitted to kiwanispppscholarship@gmail.com – please cc one parent/guardian on your application submission. If you have any questions, you can send them to that same email address – you must also cc a parent/guardian on such emails. Kiwanis Child Protection protocols require parents be included on all electronic communications.

Applicant information:

Name

Address

High school attended

Email address

Cell phone number

Name and email address of one parent or legal guardian

The parent/guardian MUST be cc'd on your application submission email as well. Failure to do so can result in your application not being accepted. Kiwanis adheres to strict child protection policies, and this measure is part of our ongoing procedures to protect children.

Scholarship for which you are applying: _____ \$500 trade/vocational/technical school

_____ \$2000 4-year college/university

Section 1 - Academics

Cumulative GPA as of 12/31 (weighted and unweighted) _____

Scale for GPA (ie 4.0, 5.0) _____

Please list any scholastic awards received, honorary societies or special awards related to leadership:

Section 2 – Extracurricular Activities Not Related to Community Service

Please provide any of the following information that might pertain to you – you are not expected to have a submission in each criteria – you do NOT need to write pages and pages – this entire section would not need to be more than a page, and it should only include activities which you participated in during high school (if you started participating in an activity before high school you can feel free to mention that). You may also substitute the activities page from your Common App for this section. If you are not just including your common app page, please do not include community service activities in this section – include them in the next section:

1. A list of any clubs/activities in which you participated. Please feel free to briefly describe each activity. Identify leadership positions held and length of service. For example: Spanish Club, 4 years. President, 1 year.
2. A list of any sports teams or individual sports you engaged in – please list any individual or team awards received and how many years you were on each team. Please also note if this was a seasonal activity like a school team or a year-round commitment, like a club team.
3. Information about employment you had, including the time commitment, and whether the position was during the school year or during the summer

Section 3 – Service

Are you a Key Club Member? Yes or No

Did you hold any leadership positions in Key Club? If so, please let us know.

Please list the community service you do for any charitable/nonprofit organizations. You should include service you do individually and service you do through organizations or clubs. If any of this service has personal meaning to you, please tell us about it. If you initiated any of these service projects, let us know. The service by the applicant will not be evaluated solely on the number of hours of service. Kiwanis members believe that quality is just important as quantity.

List each organization through which you provide community service. Note whether the organization served is through a school project or is something you did independently. Also note the approximate number of hours devoted to each organization over your 4 years in high school.

For example, if you are in Key Club at school, you should list “Key Club” as the organization – if you want to list some of the projects you participate in through Key Club, put that in the Key Club section. It might look like this:

Key Club at Pinellas Park High School – 4 years. Treasurer, 1 year. President, 1 year. Chaired the Trick or Treat Trail project. Our club did various projects in the community, including a little library project, volunteering at the high school football concessions, and volunteering at the City backpack drive. I started a new project for our club volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House making dinner for residents. We repeated this project every other month going forward. Service through Key Club - Approximately 500 hours over 4 years

American Cancer Society – volunteered 3 years at the Making Strides event handing out water. Volunteered directly with the ACS. Approximately 15 hours.

Section 4- short answer

Please write a short essay, maximum 2 pages, on the following topic:

Describe your commitment to community service.