



SOCIETY OF KASTORIANS "OMONOIA", INC. SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. Scholarship Eligibility and Application Requirements

All applicants and their parent(s) must be, or must have been, members in good standing of the Society. Specifically:

One or both parents must be, or must have been, members for at least the last three years.

If both parents are deceased, at least one grandparent must be, or must have been, a member for at least three years;

If parents and grandparents are deceased, at least one parent or one grandparent must have been a member for at least three years at the time of his/her death.

Applicants must be (or become) members in the year in which they are applying.

Applicants must not have exceeded their limit of scholarship awards from the Society (see section IV, "Lifetime Limits on the Number of Scholarship Awards").

Applicants must write an essay on a topic selected by the scholarship committee (refer to "Scholarship Application Instructions" for the essay title for this year).

Applicants must either be full time matriculated students in an accredited program (minimum 12 credits) or High School graduates accepted for full time matriculation in an accredited program of an accredited institution. Accredited institutions are Colleges or Universities with four (or more) years of undergraduate or graduate study that have been accredited by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Institution accreditation can be confirmed through the online CHEA database of accredited institutions (www.chea.org/search/search.asp).

Undergraduate students must verify full time status (12 or more credits) with a transcript of their current semester coursework. Graduate students taking 12 or more credits may also verify full time status with a transcript of their current semester coursework. Full time graduate students or medical students who have either completed their coursework or are taking less than 12 credits while conducting research or clinical work, must verify their full time status with an official letter from the school certifying full time enrollment status. Refer to the "Scholarship Application Checklist" for detailed guidelines on transcripts and letters of enrollment status.

Only official supporting documents (transcripts and letters of enrollment status) bearing the official letterhead of the school, will be accepted. Unofficial documents, such as photocopies, FAX documents and web-based printouts, will render the application ineligible and void. Transcripts and letters of enrollment status can be mailed directly from the school or they can be mailed by the applicant in a sealed envelope. The application and essay can be sent via regular mail, e-mail or fax.

Applicants must be in good academic standing: an average grade of 80 or better in the senior year of high school is required for first year undergraduate applicants and a GPA of 3.00 or better is required for all others (see section II, "Scholarship Award Categories").

Applicants must achieve an overall score of at least 60 in order to receive a scholarship (see section III, "Scholarship Application Evaluation Process").

Applicants must sign the "Scholarship Application". Applicants who chose to return their application via e-mail must type their name in the signature line of the application (in section II, "Certification", of the "Scholarship Application"), which will be considered equivalent to an electronic signature.

All application material (application, essay, transcripts and/or letter) and membership dues must be received by the deadline specified in "Scholarship Application Instructions." This deadline will be strictly adhered to. There will be no extensions.

Starting in 2011, service to the Society of Kastorians "OMONOIA" and/or the community has been considered part of the evaluation process (see section III, "Scholarship Application Evaluation Process"). Service can include participation to the Society's events (helping in committees, mentoring, maintenance of web site, sports teams, dance group, annual banquet, etc.) as well as any "remote engagement" that promotes social networking, remote tutoring and Kastorian values such as philanthropy, civic engagement, etc. In addition to the Society which includes the Benevolent Society Ladies of Kastoria, qualifying organizations include any and all philanthropic organizations and the community at large.

Service must be supported by a letter of reference. Detailed guidelines are provided in the document "Instructions for Documenting and Verifying Service" in the Scholarship section of the Society's website.

II. Scholarship Award Categories

There are four scholarship categories, each with its own range of award amounts (see section V, "Scholarship Award Amounts"). They are...

1. First year undergraduate students
2. Undergraduate students
3. Graduate students or medical students in the first two years of graduate school.
4. Doctoral students, graduate students beyond the first two years of graduate school, or medical students in the last two years of medical school.

III. Scholarship Application Evaluation Process

All qualifying applications in all categories are rated and ranked by an overall score calculated as follows...

50% is the cumulative GPA up to the time of application

20% is the average essay grade from three independent examiners

25% is the school ranking based on US News and World Report's annual ranking

5% is for service to the Society of Kastorians "OMONOIA" and/or the community

For first-year Undergraduate/Graduate/Doctoral students the overall GPA in their previous school/degree is used in the evaluation process. Thus, for first-year undergraduate students it is the average grade in the last year of High School, for first-year graduate students it is the GPA of their undergraduate degree and for first-year doctoral students it is the GPA of their graduate degree. For all others it is the cumulative GPA up to the time of application.

The three examiners who review and grade the essays are instructors in higher education (college and university professors). To ensure fairness, essays are evaluated anonymously (applicant's name does not appear on the essay).

Each year "US News and World Report" publishes the rankings of US colleges and universities. This is used to rank the institution that the applicant is currently attending.

In order for the applicant to receive credit for service to the Society, he or she must contact the office of the Society to register for one or more qualifying services. Upon completion of service(s), written documentation including detailed description(s) and dates of service must be submitted for review, along with the rest of the application.

For a given category, the overall score of the application determines the scholarship award amount (see section V, "Scholarship Award Amounts") and the order of presentation in the award ceremony (highest grade goes first).

IV. Lifetime Limits on the Number of Scholarship Awards

There is a lifetime limit of three total Scholarship awards: either two undergraduate awards and one graduate award or one undergraduate award and two graduate awards. Awards in categories 1 and 2 are undergraduate awards; awards in categories 3 and 4 are graduate awards. (see section II, "Scholarship Award Categories").

V. Scholarship Award Amounts

Each year the scholarship committee sets the minimum and maximum award amounts for each category with the consent and approval of the Society's Board of Directors. For each category, award amounts vary according to the overall application score as follows...

Application Overall Score	First Year Undergraduate	Undergraduate	Graduate / Medical 1-2	Doctoral / Medical 3-4
60.0 - 63.5	MIN1	MIN2	MIN3	MIN4
63.5 - 67.0
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91.5 - 95.0
95.0 - 100.0	MAX1	MAX2	MAX3	MAX4

where MIN1 and MAX1 are the minimum and maximum award amounts for category 1, MIN2 and MAX2 are the minimum and maximum award amounts for category 2, etc. (see section II, "Scholarship Award Categories").

Typical scholarship award amounts are from \$1,250 to \$3,250.

VI. Scholarship Award Names

Scholarship award certificates bear the names of the benefactors who have contributed to the Scholarship Fund of the Society of Kastorians "OMONOIA". The scholarship names are...

The ASSEMBLED FUR IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION OF NYC Scholarship

The NIKOLAOS BASDEKAS Scholarship
The BENEVOLENT SOCIETY LADIES OF KASTORIA Scholarship
The CONSTANTINO AND ALIKI CHRISTIE Scholarship
The PHILIP AND DORA CHRISTIE Scholarship
The ALEXANDRA KORDES DAVATZES Scholarship
The GEORGE HADZELLIS Scholarship
The MICHAEL AND MILLIE KOUMAS Scholarship
The KYROS MANTZOURAS Scholarship
The CLEONIKI METROPOULOS AND AUNT LENKO Scholarship
The LEONIDAS AND ANNE MIHALTSE Scholarship
The DIMITRIOS PAPAS Scholarship
The GUS PAPAS Scholarship
The SOCIETY OF KASTORIANS "OMONOIA", INC. Scholarship
The EVANGELOS AND EVANGELIA TSAMISIS Scholarship
The THOMAS, MARY AND VENETIA TSAMISIS Scholarship
The ARGYRIOS TSIKOS Scholarship
The NICHOLAS AND THEMIS VASSILIOU Scholarship
The ATHANASIOS YANOS Scholarship
The ZACHOS BROTHERS Scholarship

VII. Additional Requirements for Recipients in the Tri-State Area

Scholarship recipients are required to be present during the scholarship awards ceremony unless they live or attend school outside the tri-state (NY, NJ and CT) area.

VIII. Amendments to Scholarship Rules and Regulations

These rules and regulations may be amended at any time by the Scholarship Committee of the Society of Kastorians "OMONOIA" with the consent and approval of the Society's Board of Directors.

IX. Effective Date

These rules and regulations take effect on June 1st, 2017 and supersede all older versions.