

# 2026 Member Scholarship

This scholarship provides financial assistance to PSE members who wish to enhance their skills or pursue additional educational goals. Scholarships are awarded based on many factors, including financial need, academic achievement, leadership and service.

## **Eligibility**

Applicants for PSE scholarship awards must meet the following requirements:

- Be a PSE member in good standing.
- Plan to enroll or participate in the educational opportunity at an accredited institution within a 12-month period beginning June 2026. Accredited institutions include universities, community colleges, trade and vocational schools, as well as courses offered through a local Educational Service District (ESD), driver-trainer, mechanic, food service, office professional and other professional certification courses, including pursuit of a teaching certificate.

## **Deadline**

The completed application form and supporting information must be returned to the PSE office in Auburn postmarked on **or before April 7, 2026**.

## **Checklist**

You may wish to use the attached application checklist to ensure you have provided all elements of the application.

## **Selection Process**

Qualified applications are reviewed by the PSE Scholarship Committee. The Committee is comprised of classified school employees who review applications and select winners. The Committee gives the greatest amount of weight to financial need. Other considerations include essays, union activity, letters of recommendation, activities, honors and awards.

## **Fund Disbursement**

The scholarship awards will be available September 2026. Scholarship funds are issued by check, drafted to the educational institution, and mailed to the recipient for use during the academic year. The scholarship may also be issued as reimbursement for tuition, lodging and mileage.

PSE reserves the right to revoke the scholarship if it is not used within the 12-month period beginning Sept. 2026, or if the award is based on inaccurate information. Unused scholarship funds will be returned to PSE.

## **Contact**

If you have any questions, contact Robin Avery at 253.876.7415 or email [ravery@pseofwa.org](mailto:ravery@pseofwa.org).

# *Scholarship Application Checklist*

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**Completed application form.**

Please respond completely to each portion of the application. Use "N/A" if not applicable to your situation.

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**Complete Federal Tax Form 1040 or 1040EZ or 1040A.**

Nothing but these forms will be accepted. No W-2's, 1099 forms or E-file. All tax forms submitted must be signed and dated by you or your tax preparer.

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**Letters of Recommendation.**

Two letters of recommendation.

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**50-100 word essay.**

A 50-100 word essay describing your educational goals.

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**100-150-word essay.**

A 100-150 word essay describing the positive impact the labor union movement has played in your life, your family's life or in the United States of America.

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**Signature.**

Make sure you have signed and dated your application.

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**Mailed and postmarked **on or before April 7, 2026** .**

Late applications will not be accepted.

**Mail to:**

PSE of Washington  
Scholarship Committee  
P O Box 798  
Auburn, WA 98071-0798

**PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES OF WASHINGTON/SEIU LOCAL 1948 (PSE)**  
**2026 Member Scholarship Application Form**

**Applicant Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

PSE Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education and Training**

If you have obtained a degree from an accredited institution, what is the degree and what institution granted the degree?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List the professional or staff development classes you have completed, the dates you attended, certificate awarded and who provided the instruction.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What institution do you plan to attend if you are awarded a scholarship? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your intended field of study? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Essays**

Two essays must be included. Please attach:

- ❖ A 50-100 word essay describing your educational goals.
- ❖ A 100-150 word essay describing the positive impact the labor union movement has played in your life, your family's life or in the United States of America.

**Hardship or Extenuating Circumstances**

Are you claiming hardship or extenuating circumstances that make it difficult for you to achieve your educational goals?

Yes  No If yes, please describe in 100 words or less.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Awards, Recognition or Activities**

Honors and awards

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Leadership positions

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Other activities

(special interests, community service, etc).

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**Statement of Financial Resources:** Verification of your financial resources (1040, 1040A or 1040 EZ Federal tax return(s) must accompany your application. No E-file worksheets will be accepted. IRS tax documents are used to verify income and dependent status.

**Certification**

My signature indicates that:

1. The application and attached information is accurate and complete.
2. The funds will only be used to pay expenses for my education.
3. PSE will be informed if I am unable to use the scholarship.
4. Unused funds will be returned to PSE.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this application and accompanying information to:

**PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES OF WASHINGTON  
Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 798  
Auburn, WA 98071-0798**

*All application information is confidential, will only be used by the Committee, and will not be returned to you.*