

DC 37 SCHOLARSHIP FAQ'S - 2026

1. How many scholarships are there?

- a. *The Scholarships Committee offers 6 different scholarships. They are:*
 - i. *Memorial Scholarship*
 - ii. *DC 37 Education Committee Scholarship*
 - iii. *Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship*
 - iv. *Evelyn Gaskin Memorial Scholarship*
 - v. *Lillian Roberts Scholarship for Continuing Education*
 - vi. *Dwayne Duggar Memorial Scholarship*

2. What are the awards for each scholarship?

- a. *The awards for each scholarship is listed below:*
 - i. *Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)*
 - ii. *DC 37 Education Committee Scholarship (\$1,000)*
 - iii. *Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship (\$1,000)*
 - iv. *Evelyn Gaskin Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)*
 - v. *Lillian Roberts Scholarship for Continuing Education (\$2,000)*
 - vi. *Dwayne Duggar Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)*

3. Who is eligible for these scholarships?

- a. *These scholarships are for applicants who are graduating high school seniors who will be entering their first year of college, college students entering their first or second year of undergraduate study or active members pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree. Each scholarship has its own requirements.*

4. What are the requirements for each scholarship?

- a. *For children/granchildren of active DC 37 members/retirees/legal guardians belonging to the DC 37 Retirees Association:*
 - i. **Memorial Scholarship** - only for current high school seniors
 - ii. **DC 37 Education Committee Scholarship** - only for current 1st or 2nd year college, university, technical or trade school students
 - iii. **Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship** - only for current high school seniors or current 1st or 2nd year college, university, technical or trade school students who are overcoming a physical or learning disability. *Proof of disability must be submitted as part of application.*
 - iv. **Evelyn Gaskin Memorial Scholarship** - only for current 1st or 2nd year college or university students pursuing a degree in Education.
- b. *For active DC 37 members:*
 - i. **Lillian Roberts Scholarship for Continuing Education** - only for active DC 37 members pursuing an undergraduate degree at a 2-year or 4-year college or university

ii. **Dwayne Duggar Memorial Scholarship** - only for active DC 37 members pursuing a graduate degree at a 2-year or 4-year college or university

5. Can I apply for more than one scholarship?

- Although it is rare to meet the qualifications for more than one DC 37 scholarship, yes, you can apply for more than one scholarship as long as you qualify for more than one scholarship.

6. What is needed to apply for scholarships?

- Each scholarship has its own checklist of items that are required for submission. See them below:
 - Memorial Scholarship**
 - Two typed essays, following instructions and prompts under the Essay Topics and Instructions section of the application
 - Recommendation - first name, last name and email address of person who will provide a recommendation on your behalf
 - Proof of parent, grandparent or legal guardian's current union membership or retiree status
 - Copy of applicant's birth certificate
 - Official student transcript or report card issued by an accredited institution
 - Proof of acceptance to an accredited 2-year or 4-year college, university, technical or trade school located in the United States
 - DC 37 Education Committee Scholarship**
 - Two typed essays, following instructions and prompts under the Essay Topics and Instructions section of the application
 - Recommendation - first name, last name and email address of person who will provide a recommendation on your behalf
 - Proof of parent, grandparent or legal guardian's current union membership or retiree status
 - Copy of applicant's birth certificate
 - Official student transcript or report card issued by an accredited institution
 - Proof of current enrollment in an accredited 2-year or 4-year college, university, technical or trade school located in the United States
 - Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship**
 - Two typed essays, following instructions and prompts under the Essay Topics and Instructions section of the application
 - Recommendation - first name, last name and email address of person who will provide a recommendation on your behalf
 - Proof of parent, grandparent or legal guardian's current union membership or retiree status

4. *Copy of applicant's birth certificate*
5. *Official student transcript or report card issued by an accredited institution*
6. *Proof of acceptance to an accredited 2-year or 4-year college, university, technical or trade school located in the United States*
7. *Proof of learning or physical disability*

iv. ***Evelyn Gaskin Memorial Scholarship***

1. *Two typed essays, following instructions and prompts under the Essay Topics and Instructions section of the application*
2. *Proof of parent, grandparent or legal guardian's current union membership or retiree status*
3. *Copy of applicant's birth certificate*
4. *Official student transcript or report card issued by an accredited institution*
5. *Proof of current enrollment in an Education degree program at an accredited 2-year or 4-year college, university, technical or trade school located in the United States*

v. ***Lillian Roberts Scholarship for Continuing Education***

1. *Two typed essays, following instructions and prompts under the Essay Topics and Instructions section of the application*
2. *Proof of current union membership or retiree status*
3. *Official student transcript issued by an accredited institution*
4. *Proof of current enrollment at the undergraduate level in an accredited 2-year or 4-year college, university, technical or trade school located in the United States*

vi. ***Dwayne Duggar Memorial Scholarship***

1. *Two typed essays, following instructions and prompts under the Essay Topics and Instructions section of the application*
2. *Proof of current union membership or retiree status*
3. *Official student transcript issued by an accredited institution*
4. *Proof of current enrollment at the graduate level in an accredited 2-year or 4-year college, university, technical or trade school located in the United States*

7. How is each scholarship scored upon review?

- a. *Each scholarship is scored differently. Scoring breakdown for each is below:*

*i. **Memorial Scholarship, DC 37 Education Committee Scholarship and Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship***

1. *Academic Achievement (15%)*
2. *Extracurricular Activities and Leadership (10%)*
3. *Academic and Professional Goals/Plans (10%)*
4. *Recommendation Form (15%)*
5. *Short Essays (50%)*

*ii. **Evelyn Gaskin Memorial Scholarship***

1. *Academic Achievement (20%)*
2. *Extracurricular Activities and Leadership (15%)*
3. *Academic and Professional Goals/Plans (15%)*
4. *Short Essays (50%)*

iii. Lillian Roberts Scholarship for Continuing Education and Dwayne Duggar Memorial Scholarship

1. *Professional and Academic Achievement (10%)*
2. *Activities and Leadership (10%)*
3. *Academic and Professional Goals/Plans (20%)*
4. *Short Essays (60%)*

8. Can DC 37 Retirees apply for scholarships for themselves?

a. *No, DC 37 Retirees are not eligible for any DC 37 Scholarships. Only the children/grandchildren of members, the children/grandchildren of DC 37 Retirees or active DC 37 members are eligible to apply for DC 37 Scholarships*

9. How do I provide proof of union membership?

a. *A copy of the following can be used as union membership:*

- i. *Job ID*
- ii. *AFSCME membership card*
- iii. *DC 37 membership card*
- iv. *DC 37 prescription card*

10. How are winners chosen?

a. *All applications are assigned a random ID number then reviewed and scored. The applicant(s) with the highest score for each scholarships will be declared the winner*

11. When is the deadline to apply?

a. *The deadline to apply for the DC 37 Scholarship in 2026 is Friday, May 29.*

12. When will we be notified whether we have won a scholarship or not?

a. *All applicants, including scholarship winners, will be notified via email no later than June 12.*

13. I have been chosen as a scholarship winner. What happens next?

a. *If you are chosen as a scholarship winner, you will be notified by email and will be invited to a Scholarship Award Dinner to be recognized for winning a scholarship. The ceremony is usually held in June and you and your guests will be honored for your achievement. More information on the ceremony will be provided to you after you are notified of your scholarship award.*

14. If I am a scholarship winner, how will I receive the scholarship award?

- a. *Winners of each scholarship will receive a check made out to the applicant in the amount of \$1,000 or \$2,000 depending on the scholarship. Please note that winners may also receive tax forms (Form 1098-T or 1099-MISC) the year after receiving their award for IRS purposes*

15. Do extra curricular activities increase chances of winning a scholarship?

- a. *Each application allows for the listing of extra curricular activities, including jobs, volunteer work, community service, internships, sports and clubs that can speak to your uniqueness as an applicant. Be sure to include any and all that apply to you.*

16. What is required in the essay?

- a. *Each scholarship has two (2) essay prompts that request two (2) essays of no more than 250 words each. Be sure to read the prompts to make sure your essays respond to what is requested.*

17. Who should complete the application: Child or grandchild of member/retiree or the member/retiree on behalf of the child/grandchild?

- a. *Applicants in high school or college can get assistance from an adult or legal guardian to complete the application. There may be information (proof of union membership) that only the adult or legal guardian can provide.*

18. What is the difference between the DC 37 Scholarships and the Education Fund Tuition Reimbursement benefit?

- a. *The DC 37 Scholarships provides a number of scholarships for dependent children/grandchildren of eligible DC 37 members/retirees or for active DC 37 members. The Education Fund Tuition Reimbursement provides up to \$1,500 per calendar year for active DC 37 members to offset tuition-related out of pocket costs for credited or non-credited programs.*