

## **Association Seeks Nominations For Scholarship Awards**

The Oklahoma Correctional Association (OCA) is seeking nominations for scholarship awards to be presented during the annual conference in September 2018.

The OCA scholarship awards are presented annually to financially assist individuals who are preparing for, or who are already attending, an accredited college, university, or technical school.

***Harjit Sandhu Criminal Justice Scholarship:*** This scholarship is presented in honor of Harjit Sandhu, Ph.D., professor of sociology at Oklahoma State University. It is awarded to the student who exemplifies Dr. Sandhu's dedication to higher learning and research in the criminal justice field. Applicants must be enrolled in a program with a major in sociology, social work, psychology, criminology, or a related field.

***Leon Dwight Russell Scholarship:*** This award is presented in memory of the late Leon Russell to commemorate his contributions to corrections in photography. Through the use of his camera, Mr. Russell captured the face of corrections, giving Oklahoma a tangible, recorded history. Applicants must be enrolled in an art medium program or course work and demonstrate how it can be applied in the criminal justice field.

Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded.

### **Nomination/Eligibility**

OCA members may nominate one or more persons or themselves according to the criteria listed.

Nominees must be active OCA members at the time of submission and United States citizens or children of active members. If chosen, a student OCA membership is required.

Nominees must be pursuing an associate, bachelor, or graduate degree at an accredited college, university or technical school.

Nominees may be beginning or current students.

Current OCA officers and scholarship/award committee members are excluded annually from any consideration for this award during their service.

### **Application Process**

Applicants must complete the OCA scholarship application form with the following:

- Proof/letter of acceptance into accredited college, university, or technical school.
- Beginning freshmen must attach a certified copy of their high school transcript. Current college students must attach official certified college transcripts.
- Letter supporting the applicant's need for this scholarship.
- Brief biography for the applicant.
- If applicable, the number of years working in corrections and membership with OCA, along with any other information deemed pertinent.

**Submit completed application form and attachments no later than July 31, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. to:**

Shelly Bear/Population Office  
15151 State Highway 39  
P.O. Box 260  
Lexington, OK 73051

shelly.bear@doc.ok.gov

### **Selection**

The scholarship and awards committee will review all applications and will only make selections after achieving consensus of all committee members. Selections will be submitted for confirmation by the board.

The scholarships will be awarded at the annual training conference for the next spring term, to be used by the end of the following year.

Scholarships may not be received in consecutive years. All applicants will be notified in writing of their selection or rejection.

### **Award of Scholarships**

Scholarships will be awarded annually and deposited with an accredited college, university, or technical school to apply toward the student's tuition and related academic expenses or, upon presentation of the bill, OCA will issue a check directly to the recipients for reimbursement of some expenses.

Scholarships not utilized within one year of award will be returned to the OCA scholarship fund.