

POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES FOR SUBORDINATE UNITS OF UTAH PTA

Awarding scholarships to a few high school students each year does not fit within the scope of the Utah PTA mission “To make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.” It is also a conflict of interest when a high percentage of scholarships are awarded to the children of PTA leaders. For these reasons, Utah PTA strongly discourages its subordinate units from the practice of awarding scholarships to students.

While it is strongly discouraged, Utah PTA realizes that the leaders and membership of some local units desire to provide this opportunity for the students in their schools.

Local PTSA units may approve a scholarship program **ONLY** if the following procedures are followed:

- The PTA unit must have the Scholarship Program as an approved policy in its Standing Rules. This policy must include details about the funding mechanism, application process, clear criteria, judging rubric, possible conflicts of interest, etc.
- The scholarship program must be widely advertised to the entire school community.
- Scholarship recipients must be a PTSA member before applying for the scholarship.
- Scholarships may only be awarded to graduating students.
- Scholarship criteria should be based on the merit of the student, not the parent’s involvement in PTA.
- Scholarships may be funded in the following ways:
 - PTSA General Fund – Scholarships must be listed as a separate line item in the budget as presented to the general membership for budget approval.
 - Sponsorship Fund – Scholarships may be funded annually through a sponsorship. The receipt of the sponsored funds (income) and the award of the scholarships (expenditures) must both be listed as separate line items in the budget as presented to the general membership for budget approval.
- PTSAs awarding scholarships may **NOT** assess a fee to or accept donations from their feeder schools to fund their scholarship program.