



American Institute of Polish Culture Of Tampa Bay

Mailing address: P.O. Box 4512, Clearwater, FL 33758

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AIPCtampabay@gmail.com www.AIPCtampabay.org

Scholarship Application – Instructions

Please complete and submit the application with the required documents either by mail to

P.O. Box 4512, Clearwater, FL 33758

or email to aipctampabay@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: May 15, 2024

Funds awarded August/September

THE AWARD

AIPC supports American students of Polish descent for undergraduate and graduate level studies at colleges and universities with a special consideration given to students from our local community attending Florida universities. Scholarships of \$1,500 - \$2,000 are awarded on a competitive basis for one academic year. Funding is for full-time studies. **Selected applicants are awarded financial assistance scholarships which are disbursed to the student's university account.** All fields and majors are eligible for scholarship funding.

The principal source of our scholarship fund, in addition to member dues, originates from fundraising events and donations.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis. Candidates will be evaluated by the Selection Committee on the following criteria:

- Academic Performance, Achievements, Motivation and Leadership
- Letters of Recommendation
- Essay Response
- Work experience or involvement in community and other extracurricular activities
- Applicant's interests in Polish heritage and culture.
- Financial need is taken into consideration.
- Special credit will be given to those who submit a short article about importance of Polish Culture and Traditions. The selected article will be considered for publication and distribution.

ELIGIBILITY

- Scholarships are awarded on a merit basis to full time undergraduate students or graduate students who are American citizens, permanent residents, or have a legal status in the US. AIPC is focused primarily on providing financial aid to students of Polish heritage.
- Student must currently be enrolled in a 4-year College/University, graduate school, or Technical School.
- Student must have a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average.
- All majors will be considered but special consideration will be given to students majoring in Polish history, language or culture.

- Students who are re-applying for scholarship funding are considered together with new applicants and will be competing for scholarship funding against a new pool of candidates. Students who are reapplying must update all items. Applicants may re-apply for funding; however, scholarship renewals are not guaranteed. Awards are limited to two tuition scholarships per individual during the period of his/her studies.
- Only one member per immediate family may receive a tuition scholarship during a given academic year.

Applicants must submit each of the following:

- **Completed application form.**
- **Official transcript** ending with last completed semester from current institution which should be submitted directly to AIPC either by mail or emailed to aipctampabay@gmail.com
- **250-500-word essay** on why you are the best candidate for this scholarship?
 - Your financial circumstances (family employment and income, number of family members, etc.
 - Highlights of your academic achievements
 - Your community/volunteer work history
 - Expected expenses
 - Any other factors you would like us to consider
 - Recent photo suitable for media/press releases.
 - One (1) letter of reference from your teacher/professor, guidance counselor or academic advisor which should be submitted directly to AIPC either by mail or emailed to aipctapabay@gmail.com

American Institute of Polish Culture, Pinellas Park is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. A copy of the annual report and registration filed may be obtained by contacting American Institute of Polish Culture, Pinellas County at 9190 49th St. North, Pinellas Park, FL 33782-5228. Registration with a state agency does not constitute or imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by that state. Florida: A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free within the state (800) 435-7352. **Deductibility: Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law**