

## **Christina Mourikes Spiratos "Make a Difference" Scholarship 2024**

The Christina Mourikes Spiratos "Make a Difference" Scholarships awarded to recognize and honor a student who has made a difference in service to others in need.

One award of \$5,000 is based upon a student having made a significant difference in service to others in need together with a demonstrated financial need.

### **Who is Eligible to Apply**

- University/College Students for the 2024-2025 School Year: Students who will be enrolled full time as undergraduate students at an accredited university/college in the United States and are pursuing a four-year bachelor's degree.
- The applicant's family must be members in good standing at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, IL, or any other Greek Orthodox Church in Illinois.
- Applicants must be U.S. Citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents, living in the U.S.
- Applicants must have a minimum cumulative **GPA of 3.0 or have graduated in the top half of their high school class.**
- Applicants must be enrolled at an accredited university/college in the U.S. for Fall 2024 as full-time students in pursuit of a four-year bachelor's degree.
- Students who have graduated from a non-U.S. high school are only eligible to apply after completing 24 credit hours at an accredited university/college in the U.S.
- This scholarship is not available to graduate or post-graduate students.
- Students pursuing degrees online are not eligible.
- Students must demonstrate financial need as set forth in the Demonstrating Financial Need section. After all completed applications are submitted, the Christina Mourikes Spiratos Scholarship Committee reviews them and selects the finalists. The finalists may then be interviewed by the Committee for a final decision.
- The Scholarship Award will be presented at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church on Graduate Sunday on May 19th, 2024. The Christina Mourikes "Make a Difference" Scholarship recipient must be in attendance on this Sunday to receive the award.

### **Church Membership**

- Applicants must have their parish priest send a letter directly to the scholarship committee stating that the applicant and/or applicant's family are members in good standing at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, IL, or any other Greek Orthodox Church.

### **Reference**

- One reference form is required for each applicant. The individual writing the reference must be in a leadership/supervisory capacity in the organization/project that has benefitted from the applicant's contributions. The reference must be mailed directly to the scholarship committee by the personal reference and postmarked no later than the deadline, **Monday, May 6, 2024.** Any reference forms prepared by relatives will not be accepted, and the application will be disqualified.

### Personal Statement

- Applicants must submit a completed Personal Statement essay. This essay should describe how the applicant's contribution has made a significant difference and benefitted others in need. Please provide specific examples. Maximum length two pages.

The Personal Statement Form must be submitted with the completed application by **Monday, May 6, 2024**.

### Demonstrating Financial Need

To demonstrate financial need for this scholarship program, the applicant must meet the suggested criteria:

Family Size	Annual Adjusted Gross Income (less than)
2	\$82,000
3	\$95,000
4	\$108,000
5	\$122,000
6	\$136,000
7	\$150,000
8	\$164,000
Each Additional	14,000

The applicant must provide a portion of the applicant's and/or applicant's parents/guardian's 2023 Federal Tax return consisting of the first two pages of parent/guardian's individual federal tax return 1040, 1040A, 1040 EZ or 1099 SSA to demonstrate financial need. Please note that if the applicant has filed an income tax return for 2023, the applicant must submit the first two pages of the applicant's income tax return with the first two pages of applicant's parents'/guardian's 2023 income tax returns.

### Transcripts

- Official transcripts must be sent directly to the Christina Mourikes Spiratos Scholarship Committee from the issuing academic institution in a sealed envelope and postmarked no later than the deadline. (Please use attached form)
- All high school seniors and current university freshmen must submit official high school transcripts as well as official university transcripts. Students must meet the minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA requirement for both high school and university, as both will be taken into consideration.
- College sophomores and juniors need only submit official university transcripts.

### Submission and Application Deadline

The application and all required documents must be postmarked by the application deadline of **Monday, May 6, 2024**. Failure to have the application and required documentation postmarked by the deadline will disqualify the application.

### Authorized Use of Scholarship Funds

The monetary award received by the recipient shall be used solely to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, room and board, computers, health insurance, study abroad, or other pre-approved acceptable college- related expenses.

The Christina Mourikes Spiratos Scholarship Foundation may demand return of the scholarship award if the funds are not used for educational purposes, or the student discontinues hash e r undergraduate studies at an accredited university college in the United States.

Completed applications must be **received on Monday May 6, 2024.**

Please use this checklist and make certain all necessary forms are submitted.

- Complete Online Application form in one sitting and submit --or print and hand write it and send to SS. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church Ladies Philoptochos Society ATTN Scholarship Committee.
- Letter of membership in good standing from applicant's parish priest submitted to S Peter and Paul Ladies Philoptochos Society
- Personal Reference Form complete and sent directly to SS. Peter and Paul Ladies Philoptochos Society
- Complete Personal Statement and submit to SS. Peter and Paul Ladies Philoptochos Society
- High School Academic Profile form/ copy of spring 2024 course registration if a current university student.
- C o p y of 2023 Federal Tax return consisting of the first two pages of applicant's and/or parent/guardian's individual federal tax return (1040, 1040A, 1040 EZ or 1099 SSA-Social Security Tax Form) or tax transcript.
- Official Hightschool and or University Transcripts

Christina Mourikes Spiratos "Make a Difference" Scholarship

SS. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church

Ladies Philoptochos Society

1401 Wagner Road

Glenview, LI 60025

Attn: Christina Mourikes Spiratos "Make a Difference" Scholarship Committee

Questions? Contact Mary Alukos via email [MSA84@aol.com](mailto:MSA84@aol.com) or call (847) 674-0059