

Sarasota County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #45

2024 Scholarship Qualifications and Guidelines

The Sarasota County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #45 will award six (6), \$750.00 scholarships annually. The scholarships are presented to graduating high school and/or vocational school students who will attend an accredited institute of higher learning sometime during the 2024 academic year. (Law enforcement academies included.) These institutions must be in the United States of America. Scholarship awardees may also consist of students already attending accredited institutions of higher learning, provided the student has maintained a 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA). Applicants are eligible if their sponsor (a Lodge 45 member) worked for any law enforcement agency in Sarasota County or the applicant graduated from a Florida High School.

1. All scholarship applicants must be a child or grandchild of a member of the Sarasota County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #45. The member must have been a member in good standing for at least two years prior to the scholarship application filing date. The applicant can be no older than 24 years of age.
2. All scholarship applicants are tasked with authoring an essay on an assigned subject. The essay must be at least 1500 words in length, but no more than 2000 words. The author must show at least three (3) correctly cited sources. The reference page shall not count towards the word count. ALL information submitted will be judged on content, grammar, spelling, and appearance. "Handwritten" essays will not be accepted, and any "WIKIPEDIA" citations will be cause for disqualification.
3. The applicants' signature on all submitted documents will serve as evidence that he or she authored the essay.
4. The scholarship documents (application and essay) must be delivered together to be eligible for the final scholarship award.
5. Three scholarships are reserved for graduating high school seniors; the remaining (3) scholarships will be allocated between high school seniors and students already attending an institution of higher learning.
6. No scholarship recipient may earn more than four (4) Sarasota County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #45 scholarships.
7. The deadline for all scholarships is April 30, 2024.

2024 Essay Topic:

"Attracting and retaining qualified Law Enforcement Officers has become a major issue for Law Enforcement agencies across the country, leaving many agencies shorthanded. Explain possible reasons for this issue and provide strategies that can be adopted by these agencies to overcome these shortages."