



# PLASTICS PIONEERS ASSOCIATION

Honoring the Past ... Ensuring the Future

## PPA Scholarship Application Cover Sheet

### Information regarding applying for a Plastics Pioneers Association Scholarship:

Thank you for considering an application for a PPA scholarship. Attached to this cover sheet is an application to compete for one of those scholarships.

This scholarship is intended for undergraduate students studying (majoring in) fields that apply to the plastics and polymer industries. The applicant may be majoring in any plastics/polymers-related field: engineering, chemistry, physics, business management, etc., as long as his/her intent at the time of the application submission is to pursue a career in a plastics/polymers-related field. The applicant must be a US citizen, and must be enrolled at either an accredited college or university in a four-year baccalaureate program, or an accredited two-year college, university, community college or technical school in an associate's degree program.

For your information, the applications are judged on several dimensions, among which are:

- Year in school
- Cumulative grade point average (based on the US standard 4.0 scale)
- Financial need
- Applicant's school activities, community activities, honors and achievements
- An essay by the applicant discussing his/her pertinent background, his/her interest in plastics/polymers and his/her intent relative to a plastics/polymers-related career, *e.g.* why the applicant is applying, why he/she believes he/she is qualified, and his/her career vision. The essay will be reviewed for both content and form.
- Applicant's experience with or in the field of plastics/polymers, especially in hands-on situations. "Hands-on" may include, but is not limited to, polymer/plastics laboratory work, processing experience, plastics part and/or mold design experience, etc.
- Applicant's stated career intent relative to plastics/polymers
- Three letters of recommendation, two from teaching staff who are very familiar with the applicant's academic work and one from a community member (a non-relative) who knows the applicant well: former employer, religious leader, scout leader, volunteer activity supervisor, etc., who can attest to the applicant's character and work ethic.
  - Note: We particularly rely on the recommendations for information about the applicant that we might not obtain from the other application documents (transcripts, essay, application form). A recommendation is intended to be a narrative supplement to the objective data already submitted.

Once received, the applications are judged by individuals who were or are professionals in the fields of plastics and/or polymers, or who are or were educators/administrators in those areas.

Those applicants who are selected to receive the scholarships will be notified and asked to complete additional documentation. Once all the documentation is received, the funds are then sent to the institution, with a cover letter identifying the recipient. Separate copies of the transmittals are sent to the applicant.

We wish all applicants good luck in the process, and we look forward to seeing all applicants as strong participants in a great industry. If there are questions, or if clarification is needed, please contact Lance Neward, Education Committee Chair, at [PPAscholar@earthlink.net](mailto:PPAscholar@earthlink.net).

We also encourage qualified students interested in plastics to apply for the scholarships available through the SPE Foundation, at [4SPE.org/scholarships](http://4SPE.org/scholarships).



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## 2020-2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Plastics Pioneers Association offers \$3,000 competitive scholarships to undergraduate students at accredited educational institutions in baccalaureate programs or associate degree programs who are dedicated to careers as plastics technicians, engineers, scientists or managers in the plastics industry. Those favoring career paths that involve "hands on" work are of particular interest.

### GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicants must be full-time undergraduate students in an accredited four-year college, or be pursuing an associate's degree in an accredited two-year college or technical school.
2. Applicants must be majoring in courses that are beneficial to the plastics industry/polymer industry.
3. Applicants must be in good academic standing with their schools.
4. Financial need of applicants will be considered for most scholarships.
5. Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

### HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must complete this application and return it to the Plastics Pioneers Association at the address below by **March 15, 2020**. The application submitted must include:

1. A completed application form, including a separate "headshot" (head and shoulders only) photo. A good cellphone photo with a plain background will suffice, as will a more formal photo. No judges, other than the Chair, will see the photo until judging is complete.
2. Three letters of recommendation: two from teachers or school officials who know you well, and one from someone else (former employer/supervisor, religious leader, etc.) who also knows you well.
3. A college and/or high school transcript covering the past two school years.
4. A listing of (a) school activities, (b) community activities, (c) honors and achievements, and (d) employment history, particularly noting any experience in the plastics/polymer industry.
5. A one- to two-page statement stating what your background and experiences are with plastics and polymers, your qualifications, and your educational and career goals in the plastics/polymer industry.

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***Print or type all information***

**Name of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_  
last (family name) first middle initial

**I (applicant) certify that I am a citizen of the United States of America (initial):** \_\_\_\_\_

### Home Address:

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Applicant Address While Attending School:

Street, Apt. #, Dorm Room # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone at this address \_\_\_\_\_ Cellphone \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email Address at School \_\_\_\_\_



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Applicant last name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education Information:**

School applicant will attend in 2020-2021 \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

College class for the 2020-2021 school year: [ ] Senior [ ] Junior [ ] Sophomore [ ] Freshman

Program enrolled (Major) \_\_\_\_\_

Expected graduation date \_\_\_\_\_ Degree expected \_\_\_\_\_

Grade point average last semester \_\_\_\_\_ points out of \_\_\_\_\_ possible points

Cumulative grade point average \_\_\_\_\_ points out of \_\_\_\_\_ possible points

(Both GPAs must be based on the standard American 4.0 point system)

**Schools Previously Attended:**

Colleges & Universities	Dates Attended	Degree Earned (if any)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

High School (If attended less than two years ago) \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Country \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Information:**

**Annual Anticipated Income**

(list only figures you are certain are available to you for 2020-2021)

Family contributions toward school expenses \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant savings or earnings to be applied \_\_\_\_\_

Financial aid for 2020-2021 \_\_\_\_\_

Grants \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarships, other than this one \_\_\_\_\_

\*Loans for school year 2020-2021 \_\_\_\_\_

Work Study Program \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify below-use separate sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Available Income** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Anticipated College Expenses**

Tuition/Academic Fees \_\_\_\_\_

Room/Board \_\_\_\_\_

Books/Supplies \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify--use separate sheet if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total Expenses** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: These columns need not be equal**

Total academic indebtedness (loans) (as of 3/15/20) not including \* item above \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Application Statement:** The information provided in my application is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate, and I understand that false statements on this application may disqualify me from the scholarship program. I give my permission for any college or school to release to the Plastics Pioneers Association any information necessary to process my application. I hereby unconditionally grant to PPA all non-exclusive rights to use my image, photograph, and/or words in connection with this scholarship program.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2020**  
**APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL**

Plastics Pioneers Association  
c/o Lance M. Neward, Education Committee Chair  
Email: PPAScholar@earthlink.net