

The Women's Club of Odessa
Attention: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 254
Odessa, DE 19730
jgeigerpalmer@verizon.net

The Carol Pearl Inspirational Grant

Carol Pearl was a lifelong educator who loved children, especially those who often went unnoticed, unrecognized or simply seemed to slip through the cracks in our educational system. Our goal is to identify and reward a student whose average academics does not begin to reflect his/her true potential, someone whose inspired determination, resilience, perseverance and willingness simply to keep going can be substituted for academic deficits. Few people who have achieved great success have done so solely because they earned good grades; they know the critical importance of the very qualities this Grant will recognize.

The Women's Club of Odessa (WCO), a member of the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs, is offering students residing in the Appoquinimink School District (ASD) an opportunity to apply for one \$1000 grant for post-secondary education or career training. Funding of this grant is made possible jointly by Mr. David Pearl and the WCO. The mission of the WCO is to give back to the community through educational scholarships, supporting local projects, and historic preservation.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Must have been accepted at a 2 or 4 year college program or a professional certificate program.
2. Must have a B/C cumulative GPA. Please provide a current copy of your transcript. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable.
3. Must reside within the ASD, although you may attend schools outside of the district. Students who attend school in the ASD but who do not reside within the ASD are not eligible to apply.
4. Must complete the attached application form.
5. Must submit an essay no longer than 500 words describing why they believe they deserve this Grant. Students are permitted to seek the assistance of a parent, teacher, or counselor in preparing the essay. Additionally, students have the option to submit a 3 minute video in lieu of the essay, so long as the student does not actually appear in it. Narration is fine. All submissions, written or video, will and must be judged blindly. Finalists will be asked to meet with the Selection Committee for a personal interview.
6. Must submit a letter of recommendation from a non-family person explaining why the candidate will succeed in college or technical school despite his/her average academic performance in the past.

7. The application must be postmarked or emailed by **May 1, 2026** to be considered.
Applications dated **after May 1** or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Confidential Information

Date:_____

Name of applicant:_____

Street address:_____

Development:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code:_____

Phone Number:_____

Mailing address (if different from above)

Street:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code:_____

General Information

1. What high school or college do you presently attend?

2. Does your family qualify for free or reduced lunch? (Financial need is not a requirement, but may be taken into consideration in selecting a recipient. Answering this question is optional.)

3. Did you qualify for a Pell Grant on your FAFSA award? (Financial need is not a requirement, but may be taken into consideration in selecting a recipient. Answering this question is optional.)

4. Please list the colleges, career training, or post-secondary education to which you have applied or been accepted.

5. Please list your extracurricular activities, including employment, if applicable.

Personal Essay

In the space below, please describe in 500 words or less your future career goals and why you believe you will succeed in reaching those goals. How have your past experiences prepared you for tomorrow? Alternatively, you may submit a video instead of a written essay. The video must not show your identity and must not exceed three minutes. Please provide an mp4 file format for videos. If you choose to submit a video, please email it to jgeigerpalmer@verizon.net or send a copy of your application to the following address:

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