

# **SUMMER ENRICHMENT**

## **Scholarship Guidelines & Application**

**For students currently enrolled in Grades 5 – 11**

**And who have been identified as Gifted**

**(as defined by the Ohio Department of Education)**



# **2026**

## **SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO ESC**

**ESC Applications due February 27, 2026**  
**(OAGC Applications due February 15, 2026)**



## **Dear Students, Parents, Teachers, and School Administrators,**

To ensure fairness and consistency in awarding ESC Summer Enrichment Scholarships, we have established the following guidelines. Please read this information carefully before completing the application.

### **Eligibility:**

This scholarship is for students currently enrolled in grades 5–11 who are identified as gifted, as defined by the Ohio Department of Education. **We do not offer our own summer programs**, but assist with tuition for established programs designed for gifted students. We fund academic or fine arts-oriented programs but do not fund sports camps, church camps, or school travel programs.

### **Funding Limits:**

The scholarship amount will vary based on available funding and the number of applicants. Currently, the maximum awards are:

- \$500 for elementary students (grades 5–6)
- \$1,000 for junior high students (grades 7–8)
- \$1,500 for high school students

**You may request the full amount needed**, and if additional funds are available, we may consider a higher award.

### **OAGC Scholarship Requirement:**

All ESC applicants must also apply for the OAGC Scholarship Award. The OAGC District Contact must nominate the student, but classroom teachers or community members may write letters of recommendation. Please refer to the OAGC application instructions at the end of this letter.

### **ESC Application Requirements:**

To be eligible for the ESC Scholarship, students must:

1. Be identified as gifted (per Ohio Department of Education guidelines)
2. Be nominated by a teacher, guidance counselor, or principal
3. Submit the following documents by the due date:
  - Nomination Form
  - Parent Release Form
  - Student Application Form

Additionally, students must submit:

- A copy of their OAGC application
- A brochure or web address for the summer program they wish to attend
- A typed and signed thank-you note for the sponsors

### **Notification of Other Funding:**

It is the parent's responsibility to notify Sharee Price at the Gifted Services Office of any other funding sources immediately upon notification. If additional funding is received after our decision has been made, contact us immediately to adjust the scholarship amount. Failure to notify us of other funding will result in disqualification from future scholarships.

### **Failure to Attend the Program:**

If a student fails to attend the program after receiving a scholarship, they will not be eligible for future ESC funding, unless extenuating circumstances apply. In such cases, the student or parent must submit a written explanation to the Gifted Services Office within two weeks of the program's start date.

### **Payment Process:**

The ESC will pay the summer program directly. Parents must provide the address for the payment and an invoice from the program. If a parent needs to pay a registration fee before receiving the scholarship, reimbursement may be possible, provided the appropriate paperwork is submitted.

## How to Apply for the ESC Summer Enrichment Scholarships:

### 1. Research Programs:

Before applying, research available summer programs and decide which one you plan to attend. A list of recommended programs can be found on our website at <https://www.scoesc.org/summer-enrichment>. Be sure to print a brochure or gather program details to include with your application. Many programs for 2026 will not post information until January 2026, so plan accordingly.

### 2. Commit to Attending:

Please do not apply unless you are certain you will attend the program. Awarding funds to applicants who later decide not to attend may prevent other students from participating.

## OAGC Scholarship Application:

To apply for the ESC Scholarship, students must also apply for the OAGC Scholarship. **Do NOT send a copy of your ESC application to OAGC.**

1. Complete the OAGC Scholarship Application (available on our website or at [www.oagc.com](http://www.oagc.com)).
2. Ask the gifted contact at your district to complete the Nominator Form.
3. Request two letters of recommendation.
4. Write your essay carefully, as it will be reviewed by a statewide committee.
5. Make two copies of your completed application (one for your records and one for your ESC application).
6. Submit your OAGC application by the deadline of **February 15, 2026**.

The OAGC will issue scholarship checks directly to the program or university you're planning to attend, but will send the check to your home address. It is your responsibility to send the check to your chosen program.

## ESC Scholarship Application:

1. Follow the guidelines in this packet and ensure all required items are submitted no later than **February 27, 2026, at 3:00 PM. Late applications will not be considered and early applications are appreciated.**
2. Submit your application by mail, email, or fax. If faxing, please call to confirm receipt.
3. The ESC will notify applicants by the end of April regarding scholarship awards.
4. If awarded, submit an invoice from the summer program so the ESC can process payment. If you must pay in advance, you may be reimbursed with proper documentation.

## Scholarship Awards Reception:

Students receiving ESC scholarships should plan to attend the **Scholarship Awards Reception** at Morris University Center, Shawnee State University on **Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 4:00 PM**. This event is a chance to meet and thank the sponsors who make these scholarships possible. The reception will last approximately one hour.

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For more information, including a list of possible summer programs, please visit <https://www.scoesc.org/summer-enrichment>. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Sharee Price*

Sharee Price, Gifted Services Coordinator South  
Central Ohio Educational Service Center  
Phone: 740-354-0229

Fax: 740-354-0297

[sprice@scoesc.org](mailto:sprice@scoesc.org)

Web Address: [www.scoesc.org](http://www.scoesc.org) (click on Services, then Gifted, then Summer Enrichment Scholarships)

## Information for the OAGC Application:

We are OAGC **Region #7** / Scioto County

**The Gifted Contacts (OAGC Nominators) from each district are:**

Bloom Vernon – Angie Baker

Clay – Courtney Mays

East – Lance Davis

Green – Erika Riffe & Jessica McIlhenny

Manchester – Caroline Grooms-Lowe & Nick Roberts

Minford – Lacey Ratcliff & Brittyn Saunders

New Boston – Paul Mayberry

Northwest – Regina Speas, Heather Thompson & Tim Amburgey

Oak Hill – Whitney Crabtree

Portsmouth – Matt McCorkle

Valley – Jane Thayer

West – Eric Nichols & Erin Ballengee

Wheelersburg – Tim Gilbert & Dave Rucker

**THE OAGC's APPLICATION DEADLINE is**

 **FEBRUARY 15, 2026!** 

Please remember that **YOU** are responsible for mailing in (or submitting electronically) the OAGC application.

Don't forget to make TWO copies of your completed application (one for your records and one to turn in to Sharee along with your ESC application)! It's *a*lways a good idea to make a copy for your own records.

**\*Please note: OAGC does NOT want a copy of your ESC Application.**



## **SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO ESC SUMMER ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS**



**DUE: FEBRUARY 27, 2026 (No later than 3:00 p.m.)**

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

- Students currently enrolled in grades 5-11 who are identified as gifted or talented according to OAC 3301-52-15 in one or more areas: Cognitive Ability, Specific Academic Ability, Visual/Performing Arts, or Creative Thinking
- Students enrolled in one of the ESC's member districts (Bloom-Vernon, Clay, Green, Manchester, Minford, New Boston, Northwest, Notre Dame, Oak Hill, Portsmouth, Sciotoville Community, Valley, Washington-Nile, or Wheelersburg)

### **HOW DOES A STUDENT APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?**

- An application is available online at <https://www.scoesc.org/summer-enrichment>
- Applications must include ALL of the required materials. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Applicants must have successfully completed and submitted an application to OAGC by their deadline of February 15 (A copy of the OAGC application must be submitted along with the ESC application).

### **ESC APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 27, 2026 (By 3:00 p.m.)**

Submit materials electronically to: <a href="mailto:sprice@scoesc.org">sprice@scoesc.org</a> <b>OR</b> Fax materials to: 740-354-0297 (Att: Sharee Price)	You will receive confirmation of materials received as a reply to the email address that submitted materials or to email listed on application
Mail or Personally Deliver a paper copy of materials to: Sharee Price, Gifted Services South Central Ohio ESC 522 Glenwood Ave. New Boston, OH 45662	You will NOT receive confirmation of receipt unless you include a self-addressed envelope  Please do not send materials via registered or certified mail

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS: Applications must include ALL of the following**

- ☐ ESC Nomination Form
- ☐ ESC Parent Information & Release Form
- ☐ ESC Student Application Form
- ☐ Copy of brochure or web address for the summer program you wish to attend
- ☐ Copy of completed OAGC Application
- ☐ Thank you Letter to Sponsors

### **SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PROCEDURE**

- Applications will be reviewed by a committee of teachers and administrators to determine awards.
- At the current time students should not consider a scholarship from the ESC that exceeds \$500 (for grades 5 & 6), \$1,000 (for grades 7 & 8), or \$1,500 for high school students. However, students may request the entire amount needed and the committee will consider the request in the event of funding being available.
- Applicants will be notified whether or not they were selected to receive a scholarship by the end of April.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Sharee Price at [sprice@scoesc.org](mailto:sprice@scoesc.org) or by calling 740-354-0229 (FAX: 740-354-0297)





**SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO ESC  
SUMMER ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS**



**Nomination Form** – To be completed by a Guidance Counselor, Gifted Teacher, or Building Principal

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of days missed this school year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate grade point average this school year:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Student applicants must have been identified as talented and gifted according to the ORC 3301-51-15 in one or more areas to be considered. They must also be currently enrolled in grades 5– 11 and attend an ESC Member District School.*

**DISTRICT INFORMATION**

**School District Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Guidance Counselor**

☐ **Gifted Coordinator**

☐ **Principal**

**Preferred Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Preferred Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AREA/S OF GIFTED IDENTIFICATION**

The student has been identified as talented and gifted in the following area/s:

☐ **COGNITIVE ABILITY**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **MATH**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **SCIENCE**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **CREATIVE THINKING**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **READING**

**Date of Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

Do you feel this is a student who will follow through and complete the summer program in which he/she is interested?

☐ **Yes, absolutely**

☐ **Most likely**

☐ **I'm Uncertain**

☐ **It is unlikely**

*I hereby certify that the identification information listed above is true and accurate.*

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Sharee Price at [sprice@scoesc.org](mailto:sprice@scoesc.org) or by calling 740-354-0229 (FAX: 740-354-0297)



**SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO ESC  
SUMMER ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS**



**Parent/Guardian Information and Release Form**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents'/Guardians' Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Parent Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Parent Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION**

**How many people live in your household?** \_\_\_\_\_

**From your latest federal income tax return, indicate the range of taxable income for your household:**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$14,999 or less    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45,000 - \$74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 - \$199,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,000 - \$29,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 - \$99,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200,000 - 249,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,000 - \$44,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 - 149,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250,000 or more     |

**Is it your intent to apply for any other financial assistance in order for your son/daughter to participate in this program (other than OAGC)?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**If so, where?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Did your son/daughter submit a completed application to OAGC by the Feb. 15 deadline?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**Name of Program/Camp:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of program (college, camp, etc.):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and address for payment of scholarship (if there is a contact person, please include their name and phone number):**

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Cost of Program:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Amount Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Consider guidelines of \$500 for grades 5 & 6, \$1,000 for grades 7 & 8, and \$1,500 for grades 9-11)

**Please give a brief description of the program your son or daughter plans to attend.**

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**If there is a website for the program, please provide the website address and make clear which program your son/daughter is planning to attend and the dates for the program.**

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(In the event that there is no website, please make sure this application is accompanied by a brochure about the program that includes a synopsis of the program and an official price breakdown for the activity, provided by the sponsoring organization.)

**In what ways do you feel this Summer Enrichment opportunity will benefit your son or daughter?**

**Are there any extenuating circumstances you would like the committee to consider when looking at student financial need? If so, please explain briefly.**

**PARENT: Please sign below to Affirm**

- *I consent to the publication and other use of the following: my child's likeness, name, writing, photographs, video, art, quotes, work samples, honor, awards, etc., without limit, reservation or remuneration by the media and/or the South Central Ohio Educational Service Center for purposes of student scholarship-related publicity.*
- *Upon applying for entry into any of the Summer Enrichment Programs, for myself, my child, or my other representatives, waive and forever release any and all rights and claims against the South Central Ohio Educational Service Center for injuries, damages, losses, and/or expenses which I may suffer as a result of attending, participating in, practicing for, or traveling to or from the Summer Enrichment Program.*
- *I hereby certify that I have reviewed and understand the information in this packet and that the information on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also give my son/daughter permission to participate in the Summer Enrichment experience he/she has chosen.*

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship to student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO ESC  
SUMMER ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS**



**Student Application Form**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents'/Guardians' Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Student Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Program/Camp:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of sponsoring organization (college, camp, etc.):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Cost of Program:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Amount Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What do you hope to learn in the Summer Enrichment Program you have chosen AND how does this relate to your own personal interests?**

*Directions for writing your Thank You note to sponsors are given on the next page. Please be sure to submit a Thank You note and a brochure (or website address) for your program to complete your application.*

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Sharee Price at [sprice@scoesc.org](mailto:sprice@scoesc.org) or by calling 740-354-0229 (FAX: 740-354-0297)



## Writing your Thank You note:

It's important that each student include a Thank You note for their summer enrichment opportunity so the sponsors of the scholarship program can be properly thanked. We're collecting these to ensure each of our sponsors can receive a "packet" of the students' notes.

**Thank you notes should be typed in the space below OR typed on 8 ½" x 11" copy paper and scanned or saved for submission.** Please be sure to sign your letter with a handwritten signature!

Since we do not yet know who all the sponsors will be...

please begin each letter with **"Dear Sponsor:"**

Consider the following when writing your Thank You note:

- ✓ Write the letter in a polite and grateful manner – it doesn't need to be long, just sincere
- ✓ Tell a little about what this opportunity means to you
- ✓ Let the sponsor know how appreciative you are to receive a scholarship
- ✓ Give the sponsor a little bit of information about your chosen summer program and how it relates to your own personal interests
- ✓ Close the letter with gratefulness
- ✓ Be sure to "sign" your letter with your handwritten signature

**Dear Sponsor,**