

February 26, 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As this year speeds by, the ESTARL Central Committee hopes your recent fundraising efforts were successful! As we approach scholarship application season, we are looking forward to your chapter's efforts in identifying qualified students dedicated to religious service.

ESTARL Award Criteria

Scholarships are awarded to college juniors, seniors, or seminary students pursuing degrees for religious service.

Application Requirements

Please ensure applications are complete with the following:

- Academic records (current/most recent school).
- Name, address, and phone number of the school the applicant plans to attend.
- A personal letter outlining the applicant's goals and reasons for applying.
- Character references for the three individuals listed on the application.
- Chapter sponsorship: Signed by the Worthy Matron and Secretary, with the Chapter seal affixed.

Deadline

Please ensure all applications are postmarked by **May 15, 2026**.

I have attached a press release to share with local colleges, universities, or seminary financial aid offices to help identify qualified students. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gayle Worthington
ESTARL Central Committee Chairman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Idaho Eastern Star Announces 2026 ESTARL Scholarship Application Deadline

Scholarship aims to support students pursuing careers in religious leadership.

IDAHO – The ESTARL (Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership) Central Committee is pleased to announce that applications for the 2026 academic year scholarships are now open. As the scholarship application season begins, the Committee encourages Idaho Eastern Star Chapters to actively identify qualified students dedicated to religious service.

The ESTARL program provides financial assistance to students committed to careers in religious leadership, including ministries, missionary work, religious education, and church music.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for an ESTARL award, applicants must be:

- College juniors or seniors, or students attending seminary.
- Sponsored by an Idaho Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Application Package

Applicants must submit a completed application package, including:

- Academic records from their last/current school.
- The complete name, address, and phone number of the school they plan to attend.
- A personal letter outlining the applicant's goals and reasons for applying.
- Letters of character for the three references listed.

Submission Deadline

All applications must be submitted to the local Eastern Star Chapter **postmarked by May 1, 2026**. Applications and local chapters contacts are available on their website <https://www.idahooes.org/>

"We are looking forward to reviewing applications from students seeking degrees that will help them assist those who desire to enter the various fields of religious service," said Gayle Worthington, Chairman of the ESTARL Central Committee.

For more information or to receive an application, please contact your local Idaho Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star or email Gayle Worthington gawworthington@gmail.com Website: <https://www.idahooes.org/>

About ESTARL

The Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership (ESTARL) is a scholarship program dedicated to supporting students who wish to devote their lives to service, ensuring they have the financial support needed to pursue their education.

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Media Contact:

Gayle Worthington
ESTARL Central Committee Chairman
Order of the Eastern Star, Idaho

Gawworthington@gmail.com



GRAND CHAPTER OF IDAHO
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
Application form for

**EASTERN STAR TRAINING AWARDS FOR RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP
ESTARL**

Date of application _____

Name of applicant _____
(Give full name) First Middle Last

Student ID number _____ Is this a renewal? _____

Present Address

Street City State Zip

Idaho Address

Street City State Zip

Phone
number(s) _____ email _____

Have you received another ESTARL Award? _____ If yes, which year(s)? _____

Name of the sponsoring Eastern Star Chapter or contact

State your Masonic affiliation, if any _____

Check the type of religious training in which you are most interested:

____ Minister ____ Missionary
____ Director of Religious Education ____ Director of youth leadership ____ Choir director
____ other _____

Which college, university, or seminary will you attend next school term?

School address and zip code _____

Have you been accepted? ____ For what degree or degrees are you working? _____

Phone number of Institution's Financial Aid Office _____

Church affiliation _____

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please provide letters of recommendation from those listed below. These letters should place special emphasis on his/her impressions of your ability in your chosen field.

Your Minister

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

An official from your School

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Other

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT-Please state your personal reasons for applying for this scholarship and your plans/goals for the present and the future. You may include your understanding of ministry and your mission and the role of religion in present day living.

Applicant:

Please check that the following are completed:

- Application blanks filled in
- Your personal statement letter

- Sealed official transcript of grades and credits
 - Three (3) letters of reference
 - **Return all to the Eastern Star Chapter contact by May 1st**
- Renewal applications, from the previous year, shall be accompanied with current transcript of grades and credits. Personal statement and references do not need to be completed.

Local ESTARL Committee should:

- Assist the applicant with any information needed to complete this form
- Application signed by the Chapter’s Worthy Matron & Secretary
- the Chapter’s seal is affixed
- the sealed official transcript is included
- the personal statement is included
- three references are included

Mail the completed application to the Chairman of the ESTARL Central Committee by May 15

We hereby certify that we have screened this candidate and are of the opinion that she/he is a desirable candidate and that she/he would benefit from our assistance.

Chapter Seal
affixed here

Signed _____

Worthy Matron

Signed _____

Secretary

(Revised 2026)