

Bethesda Baptist Church



John D. Bussey Scholarship Application



Application Due Date is May 31st, 2026 @ 11:30am

Contacts: Sister Erika Thompson (Chair), Sis. Jennie Sanders and Sis. Tigist Ashaka
John D. Bussey Scholarship Committee
johnbusseyscholarship@gmail.com

Note: All information is strictly confidential and is used for no other purpose.

Criteria for Eligibility

(Article VI of the John D. Bussey Scholarship Committee Bylaws)

- Section A. The applicant must be a member of Bethesda Baptist Church having been united with the church not less than two consecutive years.
- Section B. The Applicant must demonstrate financial need based on specific financial documentations and specific records of scholastic achievement for merit.
- Section C. The applicant must submit completed scholarship forms, two letters of recommendation and other required documents to the JDB Scholarship Review Committee. One letter of recommendation must come from the leader, sponsor or coordinator of a Bethesda Ministry in which the applicant participates or has participated.
- Section D. The applicant must show proof of enrollment in a college, university, vocational school, or for a post high school education program¹.
- Section E. The applicant and parent/guardian must be available for interview at the church at a time designated by the scholarship review committee.
- Section F. The committee shall notify the applicant of results.

Important Notice to Applicants!!

(Failure to comply with any of the items listed in the criteria above and the instructions below will result in disqualification of the application.)

1. The application deadline is **May 31, 2026 at 11:30 AM**. The deadline must be met. There will be no exceptions. Completed applications may be emailed, submitted at the church, or sent via postal mail.
 - a. If emailing the application, Completed application packages may be signed and e-mailed to johndbusseyscholarship@gmail.com by the application deadline. Be sure to scan and include all materials in *one* email titled "2026 John D. Bussey Scholarship Application."
 - b. If submitting the application at Bethesda Baptist Church, place applications in the box marked as "John D. Bussey Scholarship" located at the table outside the office.
2. All information on the application must be filled out completely.
3. When N/A (not applicable) is used in response to any of the questions, please provide a brief explanation as to why.
4. If you cannot make the scheduled interview, you are expected to notify the Chair within 24 hours prior to your appointment. If you do not appropriately cancel and reschedule, the application will be disqualified.
5. The application must be signed.

Applicants, we urge you to ask questions BEFORE you submit your applications.

¹ We understand you may not have this information during the application/interview process; however, you must have it in order to receive your award

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General Information

Legal Name					
Mailing Address					
Telephone ()	E-mail address	Birth Date		____/____/____	
Are you a member of Bethesda Baptist Church? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (To apply, Bethesda membership for two consecutive years is required)				Number of Years	

Please mark in the appropriate box

First-time applicant

Returning applicant

Academic Information (Your most recent transcript/grades MUST accompany your application)

Name and address of High School		Year graduated / will graduate ____/____/____		
List higher education institution(s) you have attended		Hours achieved _____ Degree received _____		
Name and address of higher education institution where you have been accepted to attend 2026-2027 Fall [] Spring []				
Do you plan to attend full time? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Degree Expected	Field of study	Year of study (class level)	Cumulative grade point average (GPA)

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Financial Information

Mother / Legal Guardian's Name	Father / Legal Guardian's Name		
Mother / Legal Guardian's Address	Father / Legal Guardian's Address		
(1) Anticipated Annual Academic Expenses (What will total cost be?)	(2) Education Resources (How much do you have or expect?)		
Tuition.....\$	Parent(s) / Legal Guardian(s) Contribution\$		
Room and Board\$	Loans (specify type)\$		
Books\$	Grants (specify type)\$		
Other (please specify)\$	Other sources of financing		
Total Annual Funding Required\$	Education\$		
(3) How much funding do you still need? (What do you need?) Place the net amount here that represents the Annual Academic Expenses (1) <u>less</u> your Education Resources (2) \$ _____	Do you work? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, type of work	Annual Income \$
	How much will you contribute towards your education?		\$
	Total Resources (Education Resources <u>plus</u> Work)		\$

Work Experience

Year	Place of Employment	Job Title	Explanation of duties

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Essay

Please choose one of the below essay prompts. The essay must be at least two pages in length, typed, double spaced and in 12-point font.

- 1) Describe a time when you faced a challenge and how your faith, education, or community helped you overcome it. What did you learn from the experience, and how will you apply it in the future?
- 2) In times of political or societal uncertainty, it can be difficult to stay grounded. How do you stay spiritually sound and focused on your values when the world feels divided or unstable? Share a moment where your faith helped guide your thoughts, actions, or perspective.

Take this essay seriously! Plagiarism, failure to attribute factual statements and padding will detract from your overall scholarship application and award amount.

Your signature indicates that all of the information included in this application is true and accurate.

(Parent/guardians signature required if applicant is under 21 years of age)

Date

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

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2026 Scholarship Checklist

Before you submit your application, please review and confirm that you have met all of the following requirements.

Please place a check beside each directive that you have met.

1. I have been a member of Bethesda Baptist Church for at least two consecutive years.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. My most recent transcript or grades are attached.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I have at least two separate letters of recommendation attached. One letter of recommendation is from a Bethesda Ministry in which I serve or have served.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I have attached my typed, double-spaced, 12-point-font essay of at least two pages in length on the topic provided. ▲ Check for misspellings ▲ Used correct capitalization and punctuation ▲ Have used complete sentences that flow to give ideas ▲ Used correct and consistent tense throughout the essay ▲ Have properly referenced any cited quotations or information used	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I have completed the John D. Bussey Scholarship Application in its entirety with no omissions.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I have met the 05/29/2026 deadline.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please Note:

If any of the above requirements are NOT met, your application will be disqualified. Also, we understand that proof of enrollment may not be available during the application/interview process; however, it is required in order for you to receive an award. It is imperative that you forward this information to the scholarship committee(johndbusseyscholarship@gmail.com) or another member of the scholarship committee as soon as you get it.

Examples of acceptable Proof of Enrollment:	
First-time Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance letter • Tuition bill
Returning Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition bill • Registration schedule from the school with the student's name on it • Letter from school stating that you are a student in good standing

Name of Applicant: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

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