



BIRZEIT SOCIETY

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SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Program Highlight:

Birzeit Society's Scholarship program is sponsored by Birzeit Society and is primarily intended to provide financial help to needy high school and college level Birzeiti students who meet the general guidelines of the program and among other things can demonstrate a need for financial help as well as academic competence.

The program's main source of funding is primarily derived from member's donations as well as sponsorship by Birzeiti and non-Birzeiti individuals, families, and institutions in the form of general grants and memorial funds.

Needy students are encouraged to apply by filling out an application and other required documents. The application is available through Birzeit Society's Website at www.Birzeitsociety.org. Students who received scholarship in the past are encouraged to apply again, since eligibility will be determined on a year-by-year basis.

Who Can Apply:

The Society By Laws defines Birzeit people as Follows; All qualify to fill out an application if they choose.

- 1) Anyone from the main Birzeit families.
- 2) Families who have immigrated to Birzeit and now consider Birzeit their home.
- 3) A person not from Birzeit, but married a Birzeiti and their children.
- 4) Those with other qualifications as determined by the National Board of Directors of the Society.

First preference will be given to those students who are born and raised in Birzeit and /or have ancestral ties to Birzeit. Second preference is given to those students who live in Birzeit but have no ancestral ties to Birzeit. Third preference will be given to all other students applying for a scholarship.

General Guidelines:

1. The student must be of Birzeit heritage.
2. Must be enrolled full time in an accredited high school or university and must submit proof of enrollment.
3. College enrolled students have first preference over high school students.
4. Scholarships are awarded annually on competitive basis and can only be used for school tuition and schoolbooks. Students who receive a scholarship in any given year can apply again in subsequent years.
5. The candidate must be in good academic standing and must maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of “C” (70) or better for college enrolled students and “B” (80) or better for High School enrolled students.
6. Students applying to receive a scholarship must be in financial need.
7. Scholarship recipients should not object to the publishing in the Birzeit Society’s Newsletter or Website of their names and photos or any other information regarding their academic performance and status.
8. All scholarship recipients are required to perform a minimum of 30 hours of community service in Birzeit during each academic year for which they are receiving scholarships. Tutoring Elementary students is preferred.
9. **Any student who fails to fulfill the community service hours requirement during the school year upon which the scholarship was granted will be permanently disqualified from applying for scholarship in future years.**
10. The maximum number of years students who are enrolled in a four year college program can receive scholarship is four (4) years. Students who are enrolled in an engineering discipline are allowed to receive scholarships for a maximum of five (5) years. In either case, students must fulfill the program requirements in order to be able to continue to receive scholarship.

Required Documents:

1. Completely filled out and signed Financial Aid application must be mailed to Birzeit Society before the specified deadline.
2. Official transcripts of the student’s grades from all higher education institutions attended. Students who just graduated from High School and

applying to go to college must submit a certificate of High School graduation (Tawjihi) certified by the Ministry of Education.

3. A copy of the letter of acceptance from the college or University the student is attending or planning to attend.
4. A copy of the student's Visa if the student applying is planning to attend a college in a foreign country.
5. A recommendation to be completed and mailed directly to Birzeit Society by the recommending party (Forms enclosed). Recommendations can only be accepted from the following sources: A. Teacher or Professor. B. University or High School official. C. Clergyman. D. Member of Birzeit Municipal Council. E. Member of Birzeit Society's Education Committee.
6. A COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FORM must be completely filled out upon completion of the service and mailed to Birzeit Society. The Form must be certified by the organization or entity receiving the service along with the signature of either; a member of the education committee of Birzeit Society or the scholarship coordinator of the educational institution at which the student is enrolled.

How to Apply:

Applications are available through Birzeit Society's website at;

www.BirzeitSociety.org, or can be obtained through any one of the following;

1. Latin School of Birzeit.
2. Birzeit Municipality.
3. Birzeit University Registrar's office.
4. Any member of Birzeit Society's Education Committee.