

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

FROM: NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

DATE: February 2, 2026

RE: NEW HOPE CHURCH 2026-2027 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee of New Hope General Baptist Church invites you to apply for the New Hope Church scholarships that will be awarded in May of this year. The scholarships are awarded based upon a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, church participation, school participation, and financial need. We assure you that each applicant will be given equal consideration.

For you to receive one of these scholarships, you must be enrolled or have plans to enroll in a university, college, or technical school. If you are an awarded applicant, upon presentation of your official receipt that confirms your registration, a check will be issued jointly to you and the university, college, or technical school. The value of the awarded scholarship will be paid toward the cost of tuition, fees, room, board, and other college expenses. A class schedule showing the student's enrollment and student ID number must be submitted before a check is issued. Scholarships will be awarded by May before the Fall Semester.

Please mail your application along with all other required materials to:

**NEW HOPE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
ATTENTION: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE/SANDY SIMPSON
927 COUNTY ROAD 1930 EAST
FAIRFIELD, IL 62837**

Thank you kindly for applying for one of New Hope Church's scholarships. **Remember: The postmarked date for returning the application is April 1, 2026 (NO EXCEPTIONS).**

If you have any questions, please contact one of the persons listed below:

Sandy Simpson
PH: (618) 599-2036

Brenda Rush
PH: (618) 599-5511

David Buchanan
PH: (618) 599-9983

NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP

STEPS THAT NEED YOUR ATTENTION

1. Please fill out every blank in your scholarship application. This includes complete addresses and zip codes. Incomplete applications **will not be considered**.
2. Please sign the form that authorizes the committee to verify (if necessary) your grades from your respective schools (please supply addresses and zip codes). If your school gives you a transcript with your GPA on it, you may send a copy of that.
3. On the sheet listing the church and school related activities, please be specific with names of activities, dates, and locations of activities. You may use additional sheets. **Points will not be given for activities, if you are not specific.**
4. **Applications must be postmarked by April 1st to be considered. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
5. On the application, indicate the total number of persons in the household supported by parents or guardians, including self.
6. On the application, indicate the total number of persons in the household supported by applicant and/or spouse, if applicable.
7. **On the "Financial Need Scale" enter an "X" in the appropriate box to indicate the adjusted gross income of the household claiming the dependent (parents, guardians, spouse and/or applicant).**
8. When applications are returned, letters may be sent to respective high schools verifying each applicant's grade point average. Transcripts are requested for the last two semesters that he/she was in school.

NEW HOPE CHURCH **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

DESCRIPTION:

The New Hope Church Scholarship Fund was established in **2016** with initial contributions from a member of New Hope Church to support post-secondary educational opportunities by awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors from Wayne County schools or college/university/technical school students. This includes students attending Union Grove Association Churches. The Scholarship Fund may provide a minimum of **TWO (2)** awards annually in the amount of **\$2,000.00** to a full-time student enrolling/enrolled in an accredited four-year college/university or technical school, and **ONE (1)** award annually in the amount of **\$500.00** for a full-time student enrolling/enrolled in a two-year college or technical school. Scholarships will be applied to the cost of undergraduate tuition, fees, room, board, and other college expenses.

CRITERIA:

To receive consideration, applicants must:

- be a graduating senior from Wayne County Schools or a college/university/technical school student. This includes students attending Union Grove Association Churches with preference given to qualifying members of New Hope Church.
- have a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on most recent grade transcript.
- be enrolled full-time during the academic year in a program leading to a two-year or four-year degree.
- need financial aid.

Students must reapply each year, but will not be eligible beyond a maximum of four consecutive years of undergraduate study. In the event the yearly applicant pool has more qualified applicants than the number of scholarships available, the applicants most in need of financial aid will receive the awards. Additional materials may be requested for this determination.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The following items must be submitted to New Hope Church:

- application completed in full and postmarked by **APRIL 1, 2026** and mailed to: **NEW HOPE CHURCH
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
927 COUNTY ROAD 1930 EAST
FAIRFIELD, IL 62837**
- grade transcript through the first semester of 12th grade for high school seniors, or most recent grade transcript for college students, ACT/SAT scores, and GPA.
- one letter of recommendation from a church pastor/leader or church member of New Hope Church.
- one letter of recommendation from a school official or teacher.

The application and all supplemental materials must be postmarked by the deadline indicated in order to receive consideration. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

SELECTION PROCESS:

A Scholarship Committee of New Hope Church will review the applicants' applications for qualifications. **An interview with the applicant may be requested.** The committee reserves the right to rescind an award should a recipient's circumstances change, such as failure to graduate from high school, failure to enroll at an accredited institution, or GPA falls below a 3.0. The church reserves the right to withhold the award if no applicants are deemed to meet the qualifications.

PAYMENT PROCESS:

Once recipient(s) have been selected, checks will be issued jointly to the college and to the recipient, and will be mailed to the recipient's home address for the student to deliver to the college's/university's/technical school's financial aid office. Separate checks will be issued for Fall and Spring Semesters. A current transcript with GPA must be submitted and reviewed by the committee before the Spring Semester check is issued. Check processing requires approximately two weeks.

MANAGEMENT OF FUND:

The New Hope Church Scholarship Fund is administered by New Hope Church. As the fund grows, the number and dollar amount of scholarships may be increased. Contributions from the public may be made to the fund at any time. Gifts should be clearly designated for the New Hope Church Scholarship Fund. Questions and applications regarding this scholarship may be directed to **NEW HOPE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** at:

449 COUNTY ROAD 1800 EAST

FAIRFIELD, IL 62837

PHONE: (618) 599-2036

NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP

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APPLICATION FOR NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP

CANDIDATE:

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____
CELL PHONE: _____
E-MAIL: _____

NAME(S) OF PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S): _____

NUMBER IN FAMILY: _____
FINANCIAL NEED: {PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FINANCIAL NEED SCALE.}

SCHOOL:

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

COUNSELOR*: _____
TELEPHONE*: _____ (SCHOOL)
_____ (COUNSELOR)

MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY**: _____

YEAR IN UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL PROGRAM**: _____

EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE**: _____

GPA: _____

ACTIVITIES: _____
(Additional
sheets accepted) _____

AWARDS: _____
(Additional
sheets accepted) _____

*TO BE COMPLETED BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT APPLICANTS ONLY

** TO BE COMPLETED BY UNDERGRADUATE OR TECHNICAL STUDENTS ONLY

CHURCH:

CHECK: ☐ I AM A MEMBER OF NEW HOPE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH IN FAIRFIELD, IL.

☐ I AM A MEMBER OF A CHURCH IN THE UNION GROVE ASSOCIATION.

WHERE: _____

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: (Additional sheets accepted) _____

CHURCH AWARDS: (Additional sheets accepted) _____

REFERENCES: (PLEASE SUBMIT A WRITTEN REFERENCE FROM A PASTOR/LEADER OR CHURCH MEMBER OF NEW HOPE CHURCH. ALSO, SUBMIT A WRITTEN REFERENCE FROM A SCHOOL OFFICIAL OR TEACHER.) PLEASE INCLUDE NAME AND ADDRESSES.

PASTOR/LEADER

MEMBER OF NEW HOPE CHURCH

SCHOOL OFFICIAL/TEACHER

OTHER

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES*:

APPLIED TO:

ACCEPTANCE:

FINANCIAL AID AWARDS RECEIVED:

INTENDED COURSE OF STUDY:

I CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE.

SIGNATURE

DATE

*THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED ONLY BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT APPLICANTS

**NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP
FINANCIAL NEED SCALE**

ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME (HOUSEHOLD)	DEPENDENTS				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-7	8 OR MORE
10,000 & UNDER					
10,001 - 20,000					
20,001 - 30,000					
30,001 - 40,000					
40,001 - 50,000					
50,001 - 60,000					
60,001 - 70,000					
70,001 - 80,000					
80,001 - 90,000					
90,001 - 100,000					

NAME _____

*AMOUNT ENTERED ON IRS TAX FORM 1040 AS "ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME" OF THE HOUSEHOLD CLAIMING THE DEPENDENT.

**NEW HOPE CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP
AUTHORIZATION TO VERIFY GPA**

I _____ hereby authorize the
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

New Hope Church Scholarship Committee to contact the following school to verify my

GPA:

SCHOOL

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE

SIGNED:

(APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE)

DATED:
