



International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame James P. Pappas Scholarship

General Information

Honoring James P. Pappas

The James P. Pappas Scholarship is an annual award made by the Hall of Fame to an adult education major who is working toward the completion of a higher education degree. This scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2016.

The James P. Pappas Scholarship honors Dr. James P. Pappas, founding Executive Director of the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, for his tireless dedication to and support of the Hall of Fame and for his far-reaching contributions to the field of continuing education.

In 1997, Dr. Pappas was inducted into the Hall of Fame and was a member of the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors from its beginning in 1993 until his death in 2025.

How to Apply

The International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame is pleased to offer a \$1,000 USD scholarship each year to a U.S. or international adult education major who is working toward the completion of a higher education degree.

All applicants must:

- Submit the IACEHOF [application form](#), college transcript(s), and a written essay via email to shannonjohansen@ou.edu.
- In addition, two completed recommendation forms are required for each applicant. Applicants should instruct their recommenders to use the IACEHOF [recommendation form](#). Recommendations should also be emailed by those completing them directly to shannonjohansen@ou.edu,

Eligibility Requirements

The eligibility requirements for the James P. Pappas Scholarship are as follows:

- Be currently enrolled in an educational program which focuses on adult and/or continuing education or adult learning at a regional or nationally accredited institution. Acceptable majors include but are not limited to Adult and Higher Education, Educational Leadership, Educational Administration, and Educational Studies.
- Be a first-time bachelor or graduate degree seeker.

- Undergraduate applicants must have completed a minimum of 12 hours (units) with a cumulative 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) from the institution; graduate applicants must have completed a minimum of 6 hours (units) with a cumulative 3.0 GPA from the institution. Submit a college or university transcript from your current institution. Transcripts can be unofficial but must contain the Higher Education Institution's name.
- Ask two persons to submit recommendations. These recommendations must be completed by persons unrelated to the applicant who will attest to the applicant's motivation, character, integrity, and educational pursuit. One recommendation must be from a faculty member or academic advisor. Each recommender must use this recommendation form.
- Submit an essay on the topic below which will be judged on written content and writing skills and must range in length between 400-750 words.

Essay Topic

Describe what you believe are current issues and challenges in the field of adult education and/or continuing education. What do you see as future trends for the field? In what way(s) do you hope to impact the field? What is your personal philosophy of lifelong learning?

Additional Information

- Applications that are incomplete or are from ineligible individuals will not be considered.
- Finalists may be required to provide additional documentation, if needed.
- The winner of the scholarship will be invited to make a short presentation related to their essay or their studies, via Zoom, to a meeting of the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors.

**International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame
James P. Pappas Scholarship**

Application Form

The deadline for submitting all application materials is May 1, 2026.

Each year, the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame is pleased to award \$1,000 USD for the James P. Pappas scholarship to a North American or international adult education major who is working toward the completion of a higher education degree.

Two recommendations are required from people unrelated to the applicant, who will attest to the applicant's motivation, character, integrity, and educational accomplishments. One recommendation must be from a faculty member or academic advisor. The Recommendation Form can be found on the [Hall of Fame website](#).

Please type or print your responses to the following:

Applicant's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Institution seeking degree from: _____ Major: _____

Grade Point Average: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you can waive your right to inspect your recommender's recommendation by signing the statement below. Should you decide not to waive the right, you will have access to the recommendation only by written request with signature.

Yes, I hereby waive my right of access to this recommendation.

Signature _____ Date _____

No, I do not waive my right of access to this recommendation.

Signature _____ Date _____

Applicants should submit the completed **Application Form, transcripts and essay** by email to: shannonjohansen@ou.edu

Completed **Recommendation Forms** should be sent by email, by those completing them, to: shannonjohansen@ou.edu

Pappas Scholarship Submission Checklist

Because incomplete applications will not be considered, this checklist provides a guide to help applicants submit complete applications.

We prefer—but do not require—that the application, essay and transcripts be compiled and submitted as a single .pdf file.

✓	Items to Submit	Requirements	Hint
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>IACEHOF Application Form</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants must be a first-time bachelor's or graduate degree seeker. 	<p>The form has a fillable pdf format. Save and download the form and open it in <u>Adobe Reader</u>, a free download.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will allow you to type directly in the form and save it as a .pdf file.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>College Transcript documenting current enrolment in a degree program at a regionally or nationally accredited higher education institution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptable majors include, but are not limited to, Adult and Higher Education, Educational Leadership, Educational Administration, and Educational Studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergraduate applicants must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours (units) with a cumulative 2.5 GPA. Graduate applicants must have completed a minimum of 6 credit hours (units) with a cumulative 3.0 GPA. 	<p>Transcripts can be unofficial but must contain the Higher Education Institution's name.</p>
1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Two Recommendations using the <u>IACEHOF Recommendation Form</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One recommendation <u>must</u> be submitted by your academic advisor or a faculty member familiar with your work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each recommender must use the Recommendation Form. Recommenders are asked to comment on the applicant's motivation, character, integrity, and educational accomplishments. Recommendations must be completed by people unrelated to the applicant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The form has a fillable pdf format. Save and download the form and open it in <u>Adobe Reader</u>, a free download. This will allow your recommenders to type directly in the form and save it as a .pdf file. Select people familiar with your academic work, motivation, character, and integrity. Your pastor, family members, or friends may not be good choices.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Essay topic:</p> <p>Describe what you believe are current issues and challenges in the field of adult education and/or continuing education. What do you see as future trends for the field? In what way(s) do you hope to impact the field? What is your personal philosophy of lifelong learning?</p>	<p>Essay must be 450-750 words, not including any references.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think of this essay as a class assignment that is professional and polished. • Be sure to submit a typed essay. • Do use spell-check and grammar-check tools. • Do include references and citations to inform and reinforce the statements you make. • Do not use generative artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT. We are interested in <i>your</i> thoughts based on what you are learning in your academic program.
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