



**Scholarship Application Package**

**A4LE SOUTHERN REGION SO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Renaissance Hotel  
Austin, TX  
April 20-24, 2026

## A4LE SOUTHERN REGION FOUNDATION

### **SUBMISSION:**

Deadline for entries: February 28.

### **APPLICATION:**

The Southern Region Foundation 2024 Scholarship Application packet is available from <http://A4LE.org>

### **NOTE:**

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. The application and all associated attachments must be submitted **electronically**.

All documents must be scanned and sent electronically. Hard copy applications and attachments will not be considered.

### **QUESTIONS/CONTACT:**

For all questions contact Donna Robinson at [donna@a4le.org](mailto:donna@a4le.org)

### **Overview:**

The A4LE Southern Region Foundation is established to foster research and scholarly study regarding the impact of school facilities on student achievement. The Foundation acts as a proactive catalyst for promoting the development of quality learning environments in the A4LE Southern Region by funding scholarships and grants through the Otto D. Grove Jr. Fund.

Using a scholarship process, the Foundation intends to fund efforts in the Southern Region that address the following:

1. Awareness of A4LE and the importance of quality educational facility planning.
2. Advance the understanding of benefits gained from quality educational facilities.
3. Extend the body of knowledge related to educational facility planning.

### **Scholarship**

This scholarship provides financial assistance up to (3) three individuals residing in the Southern Region states to attend the A4LE SO Annual Conference April 20-24, 2026 in Austin, TX. This important event brings together school planners, educators, and design and construction professionals from around the region to collaborate on ideas and issues relating to the planning and design of educationally responsive schools.

Preference will be given to School District personnel and those who have not attended an A4LE SO Annual Conference in the recent past due to financial burden.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

Eligibility to receive a scholarship is open to any A4LE member in good standing in the Southern Region interested in furthering their knowledge and expertise in educational facility planning and the advancement of the A4LE mission. Individuals living and working within the southern region states who are not currently members of A4LE are also eligible provided a A4LE member in good standing in the Southern Region nominates and agrees to sponsor this potential new member. The A4LE SO Foundation scholarship candidate can be selected more than once, but a minimum period of three (3) years must have passed prior to a candidate being selected a subsequent time.

### **Characteristics Sought in Candidates**

The Foundation seeks applicants who are active members of the educational facilities planning community who demonstrate a desire to further their education on educationally responsive learning environments, and who have an interest in growing their involvement in the organization.

Ideal candidates should demonstrate a balance of the following characteristics:

1. Demonstrated financial need.
2. Active involvement in creating quality student learning environments as part of your day to day job activities.
3. Actively engaged in A4LE and the advancement of the mission (or desire to do so)
4. Desire to improve the way educational facilities are planned, designed, built, and utilized.

### **Selection Process**

The Foundation Advisory Council will take up and consider all received applications and make a recommendation for a final award. Award recipients will be notified on or about March 10.

### **About the Scholarship**

The A4LE Southern Region Foundation intends to award a scholarship based on available funds for (3) three eligible applicants to help defray the costs of participating in the A4LE SO Annual Conference. The maximum amount of this scholarship is \$1,200 and the amount of each award is going to be determined on a case-by-case basis and will primarily be established based on financial need. Expenses that are eligible for consideration include registration for the conference, travel to and from the event and hotel accommodations at the host hotel during the event. **The scholarship award will be reimbursed after expense receipts are provided. Reimbursements will only be made up the amount awarded. Please note that any unused scholarship funds cannot be shared or redistributed. This policy is in place to uphold transparency and responsible fiscal management within our organization. We believe that maintaining clear guidelines regarding the use of these funds is essential to fostering trust and integrity in our scholarship program.**

### **Submission Requirements**

Candidates must complete the online application.

[Click here for online application](#)

### **Submission Materials**

Application Form “A” online

Nominating letter (if not currently a A4LE member)

### **Submittal Deadline**

Application packets will be accepted by the scholarship coordinator as described above until **5:00 pm CST on February 28.**

### **Selection Process and Timeline**

The process of awarding scholarships to recipients will be as follows:

After receiving the scholarship application form, the Advisory Council will take up and consider all received applications.

February 28

Applications due

March 1-7

Foundation Advisory Council reviews applications

March 10

Notification of Award

**Evaluation Criteria**

**Affiliation** – Is the applicant currently employed and if so, by a public educational institution or a private company?

**Clarity of Information** - Is the application complete? Was the information carefully proofread for spelling and grammar?

**Participation and Leadership** – Is the applicant actively engaged in A4LE? Has the applicant held any leadership positions at the local, region, or international level?

**Ability** - Does the applicant demonstrate their willingness and ability to devote the time and attention to gaining full benefit from the Southern Region Conference?

**Intention** – Does the applicant demonstrate how they propose to utilize the knowledge gained by attending this conference to further the mission of A4LE?

**Financial Need** – Does the applicant have a financial need for assistance to attend the program? If so, have they demonstrated need in the areas of cost of registration, travel, and accommodations?

**Scholarship Conditions**

If awarded, the scholarship recipient agrees to attend the A4LE SO Annual Conference and fully participate in the many learning activities available.

Scholarship recipients will be asked to submit in writing what receipt of the scholarship represents, as well as report on their experience in attending the conference, so that it may be included in the Southern Region newsletter.