



Southern Region 2026 Otto D. Grove Student Scholarship

Overview:

The A4LE Southern Region Foundation offers a competitive merit-based scholarship designed for students who desire financial support for their pursuit of undergraduate and post-graduate educational opportunities. The A4LE Southern Region Foundation is a non-profit organization established to support membership growth in the Southern Region by providing chapter support and scholarship opportunities to support the organization's mission. 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 Fund.

Scholarship Award:

Each academic year, based on available funding, up to five (5) student(s) will be selected as the recipients of a **\$3,000.00** A4LE Southern Region Foundation Otto D. Grove Scholarship Award. Students will be selected from within the Southern Region (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas). **The scholarship will be forwarded directly to the higher learning institution the applicant is attending. No checks or funds will be mailed directly to students.**

Submission Requirements:

Otto D. Grove Scholarship Award information packets, with all required submission forms, are available on-line at www.a4le.org. The scholarship application will only be accepted via online link and any supplemental information can be uploaded in the application or emailed in a **single PDF** to Donna Robinson at donna@A4LE.org by 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 2026

Eligibility Requirements:

The A4LE Southern Region Foundation Advisory Board seeks students for nomination who meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Nominee must complete and submit all application, achievement and essay forms and character recommendation letters required by the A4LE Southern Region Foundation. Character letters should be from professors or teachers and/or representatives from organizations or part time jobs.
2. Candidate must be currently enrolled in a bachelors or post-graduate degree program at an accredited post-secondary institution within the Southern Region states.
3. Nominee must submit evidence of enrollment at a college or accredited post-secondary institution or show evidence of a college or post-secondary institution acceptance letter.
4. Candidates must show evidence that their major is architecture, engineering related to the building environment, construction management, education or another field related to educational facility planning and contributing to the mission of A4LE.

Characteristics Sought in Nominees:

The A4LE Southern Region Foundation Advisory Board seeks students who demonstrate a balance of the following characteristics:

1. Outstanding communication skills, both verbal and written.
2. Outgoing personality, strong character, integrity and self-motivation.
3. Outstanding leadership potential as measured by leadership roles in school, college or community activities.

Nomination & Selection Process Timeline:

- * **June 26**
5:00 p.m. CST on June 26 is the deadline for receipt of scholarship application online application and all required supplemental materials. Please upload your essay, any additional leadership participation forms and 3 letters of character recommendation, college transcripts, copy of enrollment evidence/acceptance letter and copy of driver's license, on the online application **or if you cannot upload, please send in a SINGLE PDF** to Donna Robinson, donna@a4le.org, by 5:00 pm June 26th.
- * **July 7**
Scholarship winner(s) will be notified on or before end of day July 10.

Scholarship Selection Committee:

The A4LE Southern Region Foundation Otto D. Grove Scholarship selection committee will be comprised of the Advisory Board appointed by the A4LE Southern Region Board of Directors. The Southern Region Foundation Advisory Board develops the scholarship criteria and policies, review eligibility of nominees, select finalists and recommend recipients for scholarship awards.

Judging Guidelines:

Clarity of Expression - Is the material presented logical and coherent? Are the key points, problems and solutions stated clearly and precisely? Was the essay report carefully proofread for spelling and grammar?

Comprehensiveness - Are sufficient details given and does the essay report fully explain itself or is further explanation needed?

Creativity - Is the essay original and imaginative? Did the student develop new solutions or procedures? To what extent were the student's talent and insight incorporated into the report? How did the student address any surprising or unforeseen developments?

Knowledge - Does the student demonstrate strong knowledge of the area of inquiry and the underlying issues?

Interpretation - Has the student stated the interpretations and conclusions clearly? Do the conclusions and interpretations follow from the results presented? What are the limits of the interpretations and the conclusions? Are there alternative conclusions that fit the results?



Importance and Validity - Does the essay address the topic or major issue? Does the candidate's work demonstrate a high level of intellectual input and is it innovative? How credible are the data, interpretations and conclusions?

Scholarship Conditions:

- The A4LE Foundation Scholarship candidate can be selected only once (1) throughout their education career.
- The A4LE Foundation Scholarship Award may be used only for tuition, fees, books, room and board.
- Payments from the Southern Region Foundation may be received to supplement, but not to duplicate, benefits from the educational institution or from other foundations, institutions, or organizations.
- The A4LE Foundation may withhold or terminate a scholarship due to unsatisfactory academic performance.
- A4LE reserves the right to publish winning essays.



Southern Region Foundation Otto D. Grove Scholarship

APPLICATION FORM "A & B"

(to be completed by the Applicant online)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2026SOstudent>

ESSAY FORM "C"

(to be prepared by the Applicant and submitted via email)

There has been increasing evidence that the design and condition of an educational facility has a significant impact on the quality of education and a student's ability to learn. In 1,000 words or less, please describe how your elementary, middle, high school or college facility has contributed to the quality of your education. Also, please describe the changes that you would propose to your learning environment that you feel once implemented, would improve the quality of education.

***** Submission Material Checklist:**

Be sure all supplemental information is uploaded on the application or combined to a single PDF

- _____ A completed **Otto D. Grove** Application/Participation and Curricular Achievement (upload online).
- _____ A completed **Otto D. Grove** Essay (Form "C"). (upload online).;
- _____ Three letters of character recommendation. (upload online).
- _____ Copy of any college Transcripts. (upload online).
- _____ Copy of enrollment evidence at a college or accredited post-secondary institution or show evidence of a college or post-secondary institution acceptance letter. (upload online).