

The Master'Singers Memorial Scholarship Fund
Scholarship Application Process and Guidelines:
Administered through the Arkansas Baptist Foundation
Sponsored by the Arkansas Master'Singers

This scholarship will be awarded annually to one qualified applicant. If the recipient continues to meet the established criteria, the award can be renewed annually for up to three additional and successive academic years, for a total of four years. The Arkansas Baptist Foundation Scholarship Application Form will be available online at www.abf.org/scholarships beginning Nov. 1, with a submission deadline of Feb. 1.

1. General Information

- a. The applications will be reviewed and scholarship awards determined by a Scholarship Committee comprised of members of The Master'Singers officers and ABSC Executive Board music staff, in consultation with the staff of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation.
- b. The scholarship award will be **\$1000.00**, paid in a lump sum directly to the school indicated by the person chosen to receive the scholarship, and designated for that student's use.
- c. No person will be eligible to participate on the Scholarship Committee in the selection process whose relative or student is involved in the scholarship application process.

2. Requirements of Applicants

- a. Applicants must be at least a senior in high school for eligibility.
- b. Applicants must be an active member of a congregation cooperating with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, or originally from an Arkansas Baptist congregation but now actively involved with a Southern Baptist congregation in another state and cooperating with state and national SBC entities.
- c. Applicants must submit the **completed application form By Feb. 1** for the coming academic year.
- d. **Two Recommendation Forms (available with online application)** must be completed for first time applicants and received by the Feb. 1 deadline. A worship pastor, music teacher or someone familiar with your musicality must complete one of the two references. Matters for consideration include the applicant's Christian commitment (including an affirmation of the applicant's likely contribution to the ministry of music), character, commitment to completing an education, and worthiness for the use of scholarship funds designed to assist a student preparing for a worship ministry career.

3. Criteria for Awarding the Scholarship (Applicant must meet all criteria)

- a. Commitment to vocation in ministry through music.
- b. Past and current contributions to and participation in a local church music ministry.
- c. Scholastic record – first consideration given to students with a 2.5 or higher GPA (4.0 scale).
- d. Current enrollment or anticipated fall enrollment as a college, university or seminary student seeking a degree in music or church music (theology degree with church music emphasis is acceptable).
- e. Written recommendations of worship leader/music teacher and lay person.
- f. Financial need – given consideration in balance with the other criteria.

4. Process of the Scholarship Committee

- a. Notice of the scholarship will be given to the members of The Arkansas Master'Singers, the church music departments at Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist College, and to the public through an announcement in the *Arkansas Baptist Media* November 1
- b. The Committee will meet after Feb 1, and name a recipient by April 1.
- c. Factors not specifically covered in this description of the Process and Guidelines may be determined and acted upon by a majority vote of the Scholarship Committee. In the absence of a qualified applicant, the Scholarship Committee is not required to award a scholarship. The decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.