

## **Association Seeks Nominations For Scholarship Awards**

The Oklahoma Correctional Association (OCA) is seeking nominations for scholarship awards to be presented during the training conference on October 16, 2015.

The Oklahoma Correctional Association scholarship awards are presented annually to financially assist individuals who are preparing for or who are already participating in an accredited college, university, or technical school.

**Harjit Sanhu Criminal Justice Scholarship:** This scholarship is presented in honor of Harjit Sandu, Ph.D., professor of sociology at Oklahoma State University. It is awarded to the student who exemplifies Dr. Sandu's dedication to higher learning and research in the criminal justice field. Applicants must be enrolled in a program with a major in sociology, social work, psychology, criminology, or a related field.

**Leon Dwight Russell Scholarship:** This award is presented in memory of the late Leon Russell to commemorate his contributions to corrections in photography. Through the use of his camera, Mr. Russell captured the face of corrections giving Oklahoma a tangible, recorded history. Applicants must be enrolled in an art medium program or course work and demonstrate how it can be applied in the criminal justice field.

Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded. Additional scholarships may be available.

### **Nomination/Eligibility**

OCA members may nominate one or more persons or themselves according to the criteria listed.

Nominees must be active OCA members at the time of submission and United States citizens or children of active members. If chosen, a student OCA membership is required.

Nominees must be pursuing an associate, bachelor, or graduate degree at an accredited college, university, or technical school.

Nominees may be beginning or current students.

Current OCA officers and scholarship/award committee members are excluded annually from any consideration for this award during their service.

### **Application Process**

Applicants must complete the Oklahoma Correctional Association Scholarship Application Form with the following attachments.

- Proof/letter of acceptance into accredited college, university, or technical school.
- Beginning freshman must attach a certified copy of their high school transcript. Current students must attach official/certified college transcripts.
- Each application form must be accompanied by a letter supporting the applicant's need for this scholarship.
- Each application form must be accompanied by a brief biography for the applicant.

Also, please include the number of years working in corrections and a member of the Oklahoma Correctional Association, along with any other information deemed pertinent to the application. **Submit completed Scholarship Application Forms no later than October 1, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. to:**

Jenny Dillon  
Lexington Assessment &  
Reception Center  
Oklahoma Department of Corrections P.O. Box 260  
Lexington, Oklahoma 73051  
Phone: 405-527-5676 ext. 2102  
E-mail: [jenny.dillon@doc.state.ok.us](mailto:jenny.dillon@doc.state.ok.us)

### **Selection**

The Scholarship and Awards Committee will review all applications and will only make selections after achieving consensus of all committee members.

Committee recommendations will be submitted for confirmation by the Board.

The scholarships will be awarded at the annual training conference for the next spring term beginning January 1, to be used by the end of the following year, December 31.

Scholarships may not be received in consecutive years.

All applicants will be notified in writing of their selection or rejection prior to the annual conference.

### **Award of Scholarships**

OCA scholarships will be awarded annually.

These funds will be deposited with an accredited college, university, or technical school to apply toward the students' tuition and related academic expenses or upon written presentation of the bill, OCA will issue a check directly to the recipients for reimbursement of some expenses.

Scholarships not utilized within one year of award will be returned to the OCA scholarship fund.