The Council for Developmental Disabilities of Sandusky County
1001 Castalia Street, Fremont, Ohio 43420

January 2027

2027 Scholars in Progress Award Scholarship Application

The Council for Developmental Disabilities of Sandusky County will award a scholarship to a resident of Sandusky County who is currently enrolled in an accredited higher education institution (college, university, or technical program) and whose scholastic goals are directed towards working with the developmentally disabled, Special Education, Counseling, School Psychology, Social Work, Speech, Occupational, Physical Therapy or a related field. Only those applications that are fully completed will be considered. **Applications are due by Friday, February 26, 2027.**

Applicant Information:

Full Name: _____

Permanent Address: (☐ I confirm my permanent residence is in Sandusky County)

_____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Proof of residency required

Educational Information:

Name of College/University or Training Program: _____

Institution Location (City/State): _____

Current Degree or Certification Program: _____

Major / Area of Study: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Current Cumulative GPA: _____

☐ I have attached an official or unofficial transcript showing a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

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Field of Study Confirmation:

Applicant must submit verification confirming degree or program. How does your current field of study support individuals with developmental disabilities?

Community Involvement and Service:

Please describe how you are currently giving back to your community. This may include volunteer work, employment, internships, advocacy, service learning, or other forms of involvement. Community service may take place in Sandusky County or in the community where you are attending school.

For each activity, please include: - Organization or group name - Your role or responsibilities - Length of involvement (dates or timeframe) - Approximate hours contributed

Community Involvement / Service Description:

Attach additional page if needed

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Reflective Essay:

Please submit a typed essay of at least **500 words** that responds to all of the prompts below. Your essay should reflect your personal experiences and learning.

1. Describe a specific experience, course, practicum, job, or interaction that has shaped your understanding of working with individuals with developmental disabilities.
2. Explain how this experience relates to your field of study and has influenced your academic or professional goals.
3. Describe what you hope to do after graduation and how your future work will support individuals with developmental disabilities and/or their families.

☐ I have attached my reflective essay.

Letter of Recommendation: [Optional]

Please submit one letter of recommendation from a faculty member, academic advisor, or program supervisor.

The letter should address your academic engagement, work ethic, and commitment to your chosen field.

☐ Letter of recommendation attached or submitted separately as instructed.

Applicant Certification and Signature:

I certify that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that providing false or misleading information may result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.

I affirm that the submitted essay reflects my own experiences, learning, and words.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

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continued

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Submission Checklist:

Before submitting your application, please ensure you have included:

☐ Completed application form
☐ Verification of field of study (degree or program)
☐ Proof of residency
☐ Transcript showing a minimum 3.0 GPA
☐ Reflective essay (minimum of 500 words)
☐ Letter of recommendation (optional)

Submission Instructions:

Please submit application to: Ruth Watson via email at rwatson@scbdd.org or via US mail:

The Council for Developmental Disabilities of Sandusky County
C/O Ruth Watson
1001 Castalia Street
Fremont, Ohio 43420

Applications must be received by Friday, February 26, 2027.

Questions can be directed to Ruth Watson at 567-342-4822.

A selection committee from the Council for Developmental Disabilities of Sandusky County will select the individual (s) for the scholarship, is responsible for, and will award the scholarship money. The decision of the Council selection committee is final.