

Beta Sigma Kappa-American Optometric Association Scholarship Guidelines

Purpose:

The Beta Sigma Kappa-American Optometric Association (BSK-AOA) Scholarship is designed to recognize and reward active BSK members in their third and fourth year of optometry school who demonstrate outstanding commitment to academic excellence and the values of BSK. The scholarship aims to support the personal and professional growth of students dedicated to the optometric profession. Thus, the scholarship funds can be used for research, to offset scientific meeting costs, academic memberships (i.e., AAO, ARVO, AOA, etc.), other scholarship-based activities, or offset Optometry school tuition.

Award:

Two scholarships will be awarded. One scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded to a deserving third year optometry student and one scholarship of \$2,000 will be awarded to a deserving fourth year optometry student.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Must be an active member of Beta Sigma Kappa.
2. Must be enrolled as a third-year or fourth-year student at an accredited school of optometry.

Application Requirements:

1. **Essay:** Submit a 100–150 word essay addressing the following prompt:
 - Why did you become a member of Beta Sigma Kappa, and how has your membership impacted you and your personal mission?
2. **Active BSK Membership Status**

Evaluation Criteria: Applications will be evaluated based on the following:

1. **Essay Quality:**
 - Clarity and coherence of writing.
 - Demonstration of alignment with the values and mission of BSK.
 - Insight into personal and professional growth resulting from BSK membership.
2. **Academic Standing:** Verification of good academic standing through submission of an unofficial transcript.

Submission Instructions:

1. Combine all required documents into a single PDF file.
2. Name the file in the following format:
"LastName_FirstName_BSK_AOAScholarship.pdf."
3. Email the application to bskexec@yahoo.com with the subject line: "BSK-AOA Scholarship Application."

Deadline:

All applications must be submitted by April 1st at 11:59 PM EST.

Notification of Award:

The scholarship recipient will be notified by email and announced during the BSK annual meeting.

Questions:

For any inquiries, please contact bskexec@yahoo.com.