

P.E.O. Educational Projects

The P.E.O. Sisterhood helps other women reach for the stars through six educational projects. Projects may also be described as “programs” or “philanthropies.” All are designed to assist women in furthering their education. Local P.E.O. chapter fundraisers are the primary means of supporting these philanthropies.

Here are the official descriptions of each project:



Cottey College

Cottey College is a nationally ranked, fully accredited, independent, liberal arts/sciences college for women located in Nevada, Missouri, has been owned/supported by P.E.O. since 1927 and offers baccalaureate and associate degrees in a variety of majors. Cottey College, a debt-free institution, welcomes women from around the world.



P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund

Educational Loan Fund (ELF) is a revolving loan fund established in 1907 to lend money to qualified women students to assist them in securing a higher education.



P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund

P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship (IPS) Fund was established in 1949 to provide scholarships for international women students to pursue graduate study in the United States and Canada.



P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education

P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE) was established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the United States and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families.



P.E.O. Scholar Awards

P.E.O. Scholar Awards was established in 1991 to provide substantial awards to women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral level degree or are engaged in postdoctoral research at an accredited college, university or institution.



P.E.O. STAR Scholarship

P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women in the United States and Canada to attend an accredited post-secondary educational institution in the United States or Canada in the next academic year.

“P.E.O. chapters support the educational and charitable funds of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, but are not classified as charitable by the IRS. Therefore, donations to individual chapters do not meet the IRS requirements for a charitable income tax deduction.”

Checks made to a specific P.E.O. Educational Project does meet charitable IRS requirements.