



Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated

Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter
Washington, D.C.
“Where it all Began”



Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter and Women of the Dove Foundation Trailblazer for the Advancement of Change, Equity and Social Justice (Trailblazer) Book Scholarship

On January 16, 1920, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated was founded on the campus of Howard University by five visionary women who dared to depart from the traditional coalitions for black women and sought to establish a new organization based on the precepts of Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, and Finer Womanhood.

In furtherance of the vision of the founders, the Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter was chartered on March 26, 1994. Since its chartering, almost 32 years ago, the Omicron Phi Zeta chapter members have supported a variety of causes and organizations, in addition to the sorority's national initiatives. Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter is an award-winning chapter for its commitment to Z-HOPE™ projects, involvement with its youth auxiliary and undergraduate chapter, Xi Sigma at The George Washington University.

The Women of the Dove Foundation (WDF) is the 501(c)(3) organization that partners with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter. WDF is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in local, national, and global communities. Every year, the foundation sponsors events to raise funds for WDF scholarships and other charitable causes.

We are pleased to announce the *2026 Trailblazer for the Advancement of Change, Equity and Social Justice (Trailblazer) Book Scholarship*. This scholarship will be awarded to a female student interested in the field of criminal justice, government, pre-law, public policy, or political science. In addition, she must be graduating from a District of Columbia or Metropolitan area High School and enrolling in an institution of higher learning in the Fall of 2026. The institution may include a college, university, or trade school. Scholarship awardees will be notified by May 1, 2026, of their selection to receive a scholarship. The award recipient or representative of the awardee must be available June 7, 2026, to attend the reception to accept the award.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

This book scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$1000 to one (1) student graduating from high school. The student must also be enrolled in the Fall 2026 academic semester. Proof of attendance must be on the university/college letterhead and must be on the university/college letterhead, with your student identification number and the address to the financial aid department, must be received by email or postmarked by mail by August 22, 2026, to receive the disbursement.



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ELIGIBILITY

Each applicant must:

- Be a female resident of the District of Columbia or surrounding Metropolitan area;
- Graduating from an accredited high school in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area at the end of the 2025-2026 academic school year;
- Plans to pursue a major in criminal justice, government, pre-law, public policy, or political science in college or university;
- Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.75 or above at the time of application submission; and,
- Consideration will be given to those with financial need, academic achievement, and service to community.

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following items:

1. Completed typed, written (legible print) or computer-generated application form.

- 2. A 250-word essay addressing this topic:**

Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated are known as trailblazers. For example, one of the organization's founders, Pearl Anna Neal, was the first African American woman to obtain a Master's in music in the State of New York. Violette Anderson, Past International President, was the first African American woman to be sworn into practice law before the United States Supreme Court.

- a. If you could use your college degree to address a social or systemic issue, which issue would you address?
 - b. Why did you select this social or systemic issue?
 - c. How would you address or eradicate social or systemic issue?
3. A current, official (sealed) copy of your high school transcript. An electronic unofficial transcript is also acceptable.
 4. A 150–200-word bio.
 5. Two (2) letters of recommendation. Recommendations can be obtained from a current or former teacher, guidance counselor, principal, pastor, employer, coach, or extracurricular activities director. ***Please note that ALL recommendations must be received by the due date for your application package to be reviewed.***
 6. Application Package Completion Checklist.

DEADLINE

- The Application package is due on **April 5, 2026, at 11:59 pm.**
- **Incomplete scholarship applications will not be considered.** Please submit all materials together including the Application Package Completion Checklist. Please



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proofread your applications.

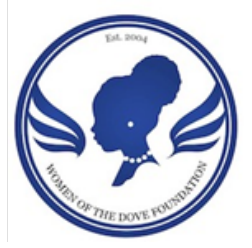
- If you choose to mail the scholarship package, it must be postmarked **by April 5, 2026**. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications via email to avoid any delays.

CONTACT INFORMATION					
Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	
Street Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Telephone Number			E-mail Address		
Parent/Guardian's Name					
ACADEMIC INFORMATION					
Current High School					
Street Address					
City		State		Zip Code	
Cumulative G.P.A.					
College/University You Plan to Attend:					
Have you been accepted?		Yes	No		
Will you be receiving financial aid for the Fall of 2026?			Yes	No	
Have you applied for other scholarships?					
If yes, please list organization and award amount					



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SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES			
Activity	Organization	Dates of Participation	Positions Held

HONORS/AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS		
Honor/Award/Recognition	Given By	Date

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT

I certify that information submitted in this application is accurate. I have not plagiarized, nor given false statements in this application. I also understand that if selected for this award, I will be required to submit proof of enrollment from my educational institution prior to scholarship funds being dispersed.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

The Application package can be e-mailed to Scholarships@ophizdc.org or mailed to post office box:



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Women of the Dove Foundation
P.O. Box 23721
Washington, D.C. 20026

If you choose to mail the scholarship package, it must be postmarked by April 5, 2026. It is encouraged that applicants submit their application via email. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Should you have questions regarding the application, please contact us at this e-mail address: Scholarships@ophizdc.org.

Remember the proof of attendance must be on the university/college letterhead, with your student identification number and the address to the financial aid department, must be received by email or postmarked by mail by August 22, 2026, to receive the awarded scholarship amount.

Scholarship application essay scoring will follow the guidelines below:

ESSAY SCORING RUBRIC		
COMPONENT	EXPLANATION	MAXIMUM POINTS
Adherence To Application Rules	The applicant follows the stipulations regarding format and number of words.	20
Comprehension	The essay reflects a thorough understanding of the topic.	20
Originality	The essay presents creative ideas regarding the topic.	20
Conventions	Proper grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.	20
Organization	Sequencing of details are effective and logical.	20



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Application Completion Package Checklist

To ensure a complete application package, check off each item as included to avoid disqualification.

☐	Completed typed, written (legible print) or computer-generated application form.
☐	A 250-word essay addressing one of the following topics: • If you could use your college degree to address a social or systemic issue, which issue would you address? • Why would you select this social or systemic issue? • How would you address or eradicate the social or systemic issue?
☐	A current, official (sealed) copy of your high school transcript. An electronic unofficial transcript is also acceptable.
☐	A 150–200-word bio.
☐	Two (2) letters of recommendation. Recommendations can be obtained from a current or former teacher, guidance counselor, principal, pastor, employer, coach, or extracurricular activities director.
☐	Application Package Completion Checklist
	<i>*Please note that ALL recommendations must be received by April 5, 2026, by 11:59 pm for your application package to be considered complete and eligible for review.</i>
	<i>**Do not check this box if all recommendations are not included in this package at the time of submission.</i>