



# 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 Alisa Daniels McLeish Memorial 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, Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter was chartered on March 26, 1994. Since its chartering almost 32 years ago, Omicron Phi Zeta chapter members have supported a variety of causes and organizations, in addition to the Sorority's national initiatives. Omicron Phi Zeta is an award-winning chapter for its commitment to Z-HOPE (Zetas Helping Other People Excel) 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 Alisa Daniels McLeish Memorial Book Scholarship*. Alisa Daniels McLeish was a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter. She graduated high school at the National Cathedral in Washington DC. She was an alumna of the University of Maryland University College where she received her Associate of Arts, her Bachelor of Science in Management Studies, and the University of Phoenix where she received her Master of Business Administration, Public Administration. Alisa accomplished a lot during her career. She held numerous positions during her career, a Paralegal, Nursing Assistant, Finance Clerk, Budget Director, and Human Resource Director. Alisa believed that the youth of today would be the leaders of tomorrow and believed in giving back to her community, therefore this scholarship is named in her honor. The scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled 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 \$1000.00 to one (1) student currently enrolled in an accredited college or university for the Fall 2026 academic semester. Proof of



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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 scholarship.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Each applicant must:

- Be a resident of the DC Metropolitan area (to include Washington, D.C.; Alexandria, VA; Arlington County, VA; Fairfax County, VA; Falls Church, VA; Prince William County, VA and Prince George's County, MD; Montgomery County, MD; or Charles County, MD);
- Be a returning female college student in the Fall of 2026 (sophomore, junior, or senior);
- Currently be a student at an accredited four-year college, university, trade school, or institution at the end of the 2025-2026 academic school year; and
- Have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.75 or above at the time of application submission.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must submit the following items:

1. Completed typed written (legible print) or computer-generated application form.
2. A 250-word essay addressing one of the following topics:
  - a) Why is community service important?
  - b) What life experiences have shaped who you are today and what challenges have you overcome in achieving your education?
  - c) Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?
3. A current, official (sealed) copy of your college, university, or trade 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 proofread your applications. Visit <https://www.grammarly.com/> for assistance.**
- 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.

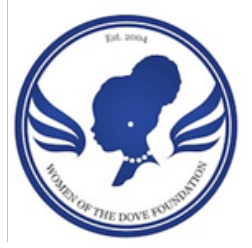
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HONORS/AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS		
Honor/Award/Recognition	Given By	Date

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_



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The Application package can be e-mailed to [Scholarships@ophizdc.org](mailto:Scholarships@ophizdc.org) or mailed to post office box:

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](mailto: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 April 22, 2026, to receive the awarded scholarship amount.



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**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.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed typed, written (legible print) or computer-generated application form
<input type="checkbox"/>	A 250-word essay addressing one of the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does the concept of Finer Womanhood mean to me?</li><li>• What life experiences have shaped who you are today and what challenges have you overcome in achieving your education?</li><li>• Where do you see yourself in 10 years from now?</li></ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	A current, official (sealed) copy of your college, university, or trade school transcript. An electronic unofficial transcript is also acceptable.
<input type="checkbox"/>	A 150 – 200 word bio.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application Package Completion Checklist**
	<b><i>*Please note: 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></b>
	<b><i>**Do not check this box if all recommendations are not included in this package at the time of submission.</i></b>