

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



Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter and The Women of the Dove Foundation Linda A. Fennell PearlZ of Wisdom 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 nearly almost 32 years ago, Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter members have supported a variety of local causes and organizations, in addition to the Sorority's national initiatives. Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter has won numerous awards 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), a 501(c)(3) organization, partners with Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. WDF is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in local, national, and global communities. Each year, the WDF sponsor events to raise funds for scholarships and other charitable causes.

Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated and The Women of the Dove Foundation are pleased to announce the *2026 Linda A. Fennell PearlZ of Wisdom Scholarship*. This scholarship will be awarded to a female high school senior whose mother, father, sister, brother (by birth or adoption) or family-designated caregiver (i.e., grandmother, aunt, cousin) is either a cancer survivor or died due to a cancer diagnosis.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship will be awarded to one female high school student in the amount of \$1,000 to help cover tuition, board, books and supplies. Specifically, she must be a resident of the District of Columbia and will graduate from a District of Columbia or Metropolitan area High School at the end of the 2025-2026 academic school year. The student must plan to enroll in a College, University, or trade school in the Fall 2025 academic year. The Awardee will be notified on or by **May 1, 2026**, of their selection to receive the scholarship. Once notified the awardee or a representative must be available on June 7, 2026, to accept the award in person. Proof of enrollment 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 no later than **August 22, 2026**, to receive the disbursement.



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ELIGIBILITY

Each applicant must:

- Be a female resident of the District of Columbia;
- Graduating from an accredited high school in the District of Columbia or within the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area (Prince George's County, Montgomery County, Alexandria, Fairfax County and Loudon County) at the end of the 2025-2026 academic school year; and
- Have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.00 or above at the time of application submission.

Consideration will be given to those with financial need, academic achievement, and service to community.

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following items:

- 1. A Completed typed, written (legible print), or computer-generated application form.
- 2. A 250-word essay addressing one of the following topics:
 - (a) As a youth whose close family member is a cancer survivor or passed away due to cancer, what PearlZ of Wisdom would you give to another youth with the same experience?
 - (b) If you could use your college degree to help reduce health disparities related to a specific cancer area, which type would you target and why?
 - (c) What community resource do you believe would help decrease cancer rates in the District of Columbia and why?
- 3. A copy of the student's acceptance letter.
- 4. A current, official (sealed) copy of your high school transcript. An electronic unofficial transcript is also acceptable.
- 5. A 150–200-word bio.
- 6. 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.*
- 7. The Application Package Completion Checklist.



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DEADLINE

- The Application package is due by **April 5, 2026**, **at 11:59 pm.** Email all documents to: **Scholarships@ophizdc.org.** Enter **The Linda A. Fennell PearlZ of Wisdom Scholarship** in the subject line.
- Incomplete scholarship applications will not be considered. Please submit all materials together including the Application Package Completion Checklist. Please 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							
Street Addre	ess	1		I			
City	I	State			Zip Code		
Telephone Number		I	E-mail Address				
Parent/Gua	rdian's Nam	e					
		<u>.</u>					
		ACAD	EMIC	INFORMAT	ION		
Current Hig	h School						
Street Addre	ess						
City	1	State			Zip Code		
Cumulative	G.P.A.						
College/Uni	versity You l	Plan to Attend:					
Have you be	en accepted:	Yes		No			



Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated Omicron Phi Zeta Chapter

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Activity Organization	COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES Dates of Participation VARDS/RECOGNITIONS Given By	Positions Held Date		
Activity Organization HONORS/AV	Dates of Participation VARDS/RECOGNITIONS			
HONORS/AV	VARDS/RECOGNITIONS			
		Date		
	•			
ATEMENT OF AGREEMENT				
ertify that information submitted in this applicatements in this application. I also understand toof of enrollment from my educational institut	that if selected for this award, I wil	l be required to submit		
gnature:	Date:			



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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: <u>Scholarships@ophidc.org.</u>

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.

Scoring for the Scholarship application essay 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	The use of 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.

Name of Applicant:					
	Completed typed, written (legible print) or computer-generated application form.				
	A 250-word essay to answer one of these questions:				
	(a) As a youth whose close family member is a cancer survivor or passed away due to cancer, what PearlZ of Wisdom would you give to another youth with the same experience and why?				
	(b) If you could use your college degree to help reduce health disparities related to a specific area of cancer, which type would you address and why?				
	(c) What community resource do you believe would be helpful to decrease cancer rates in the District of Columbia and why?				
	A current, official (sealed) copy of your high school transcript. An electronic unofficial transcript is also acceptable.				
	A copy of the student's acceptance letter from their respective school.				
	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.				
	Proof of Residency (Non-driver's ID, or other DC-issued identification				
	Application Package Completion Checklist.**				
	*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.				
	**Do not check this box if all recommendations are not included in this package at the time of submission.				