

PONDER PALS SCHOLARSHIP 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Ponder PALS, Inc. offers a minimum of two scholarships to Ponder High School Seniors. Each scholarship will be awarded with a minimum amount of \$1500.00 with the potential to increase the amount based on who has demonstrated the objectives set forth by good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, respect for authority and giving back to the community(based on if any applications are received by the due date).

The recipient will be chosen after careful consideration of academic record, personal character, discipline, and extra-curricular activities at PHS and volunteer work in youth sports with the Ponder PALS.

This scholarship does not restrict its potential recipient to any specific accredited college or trade school.

Application Criteria:

1. Applicants must be a graduating senior in good standing (attendance and disciplinary) at Ponder High School.
2. Applicants must be an athlete at Ponder High School.
3. Applicants must have maintained an overall high school academic grade point average of 80 or better.
4. Applicants must show proof of a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer work in youth sports with the Ponder PALS such as gatekeeper, concession stand volunteer, trash clean up, or coaching assistant. Hours must be approved by a PALS board member. These hours are cumulative and can begin as early as ninth grade. It is the applicant's job to maintain the volunteer hour log. (Blank volunteer hour log is available at www.ponderpals.com)
5. Write a 250-word (or more) essay on how Ponder PALS volunteer work impacted you and the importance of volunteer work in the Ponder community. Your essay should be typed on a separate sheet and attached to the application.
6. Two letters of recommendation are required. One from a current PHS teacher and one from a coach within Ponder ISD. Letters should include information about character, academic achievement, extracurricular activities, leadership qualities, cooperation with authority figures, attitude, and motivation.
7. Applications must be turned in at the high school counselor office no later than April 25, 2026 by 3:30 p.m.
8. Failure to submit any part of your application and/or applicants who do not meet the outlined criteria will be disqualified.
9. This will be a one-time disbursement of funds to the recipient's accredited college or trade school.

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Applicant's Full Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Years at Ponder High School: _____ Overall GPA: _____

Years of Participation in PHS Athletics: _____

Years of Participation in Ponder PALS : _____

School planning to attend (if more than one is under consideration, please list all):

Have you been accepted to any college or trade school? _____

High School honors received:

Academic: _____

Athletic: _____

High School Activities: _____

Please include:

1. Two letters of recommendation
2. Essay
3. Signed Proof of 50 volunteer hours logged with Ponder Athletic League (PALS)

Student Signature

Date