

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma



Mark K. McFadden
Right Eminent Grand Commander

P.O. Box 471302
Tulsa, OK 74147-1302
www.okyorkrite.org
grandsecrec@okyorkrite.org

Jon B. Greene
Grand Recorder
(918) 928-2356(Office)

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND COMMANDER

Thursday, June 26, 2025

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 4, SERIES 2025-2026

To: The Officers of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma,
The Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oklahoma,
The Officers and Sir Knights of the Constituent Commanderies of Knights Templar of Oklahoma, and to whom
it may concern.

This General order consists of the announcement of The Knights Templar Education Foundation, Division of Oklahoma Scholarship award winners.

The 2025 Knights Templar Education Foundation, Division of Oklahoma Scholarship committee has met and has gone through the scholarship applications. This year, we received ten (10) female and eleven (11) male applications. The committee is pleased to announce the winners of the four (4) scholarships. Each will receive a \$1,500.00 scholarship which will be mailed to their institutions.

The two females are:
Kendal Brunk and Tucker Yorman

The two males are:
Jason Smith and Eston Armstrong

Mission Statement

The Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee considers all applications for scholarships without regard to age, race, religion, National origin, gender, of Masonic ties, or affiliations. These scholarships are not "grants in aid" but are open to all students regardless of their financial circumstances.

Purpose

Provide financial assistance to students who meet the required qualifications, which may vary from state to state.

History and transition of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation.

In 1922, the Grand Encampment launched the Knights Templar Educational Foundation with the words: "We feel that the Grand Encampment can build no greater monument nor inaugurate a more worthwhile movement than to establish a plan which will put into effect a plan which will provide educational advantages for the youth of our beloved country, thereby enabling them to become more useful members of society and better Citizens of the United States of America."

The Foundation was sustained and perpetuated by each Sir Knight paying the sum of \$1.00 annually for a period of nine years beginning July 1, 1924. This fund became available for student loans.

Through the years, the fund has grown, and Grants and Scholarships are available in several states. However, some states continue to use the Loan program where the student is expected to repay the loan at a low interest rate. States have either Grants, Scholarships, or Loans, but not both.

"Every Christian Mason should be A Knight Templar"

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The need for Education

Education beyond high school is essential in a technological age. It may be obtained today in -

1. A vocational school that trains artisans and craftsmen.
2. A technical school that prepares technicians for various specializations.
3. A professional school that offers preparation in medicine, law, theology, engineering, business, agriculture, and others.
4. Colleges and universities that give a firm foundation for business, trade, or profession.

The Record

Since its founding, the Knights Templar Educational Foundation has assisted more than 80,000 students for an aggregate monetary value of over 38 million dollars through Loans and Scholarships to deserving youth, thereby exemplifying the purpose and principles for which it was created.

This General Order will be read at the first Stated Conclave following receipt. The Recorder will document the reading in the minutes of the Stated Conclave.

Attest:

Mark K. McFadden
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Jon B. Greene, KTCH
Grand Recorder