



Alabama Organized Labor Awards Foundation

Post Office Box 1841
Birmingham, Alabama 35234

April 27th, 2026

TO: All Affiliates

FROM: Joe Davis III, AOLAF Chairperson

SUBJECT: **2026 AOLAF Essay Contest and 2026 AOLAF Trade Scholarship Contest**

I am pleased to announce the **2026 AOLAF Essay Contest**, as well as the **2026 AOLAF Trade Scholarship Contest**. This year there will be fourteen (14) Academic essay scholarship recipients to be awarded as follows:

The 2026 Central Alabama Building Trades Scholarship:

1 - \$4,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Central Alabama Building Trades and The Pat Keahey Law Firm)

The 2026 Billy Tindle Memorial Scholarship:

1 - \$3,500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by IAM District Lodge 75 and The Pat Keahey Law Firm)

The 2026 James Albright Memorial Scholarship:

1 - \$1,500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by The Gardner Firm PC)

The 2026 James F. Swindle Memorial Scholarship:

1 - \$1,500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Quinn, Connor, Weaver, Davies & Rouco Law Firm)

The 2026 Darrell Turner Memorial Scholarship:

1 - \$1,500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by UA Pipeliners Local 798)

The 2026 Pat Keahey Scholarship in Honor of Southern Building Trades:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by The Pat Keahey Law Firm)

The 2026 Pat Keahey Scholarship in Honor of United Steelworkers:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by The Pat Keahey Law Firm)

The 2026 Pat Keahey Scholarship in Honor of Northern Building Trades:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by The Pat Keahey Law Firm)

The 2026 United Mineworkers of America Cecil E. Roberts Scholarships:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarships

(Funded by United Mineworkers of America)

The 2026 United Steelworkers District 9 Scholarship:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by United Steelworkers District 9)

The 2026 Southern Nuclear Company Scholarship:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Southern Nuclear Company)

The 2026 Alabama Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Scholarship:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Alabama Coalition of Black Trade Unionists)

The 2026 Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 91 Scholarship:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 91)

The 2026 Iron Workers Local 92 Scholarship:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Iron Workers Local 92)

The 2026 USW Workers Memorial Scholarship:

1 - \$1,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by USW Locals 1013 & 2122)

The 2026 Jimbo Humphries Memorial Scholarship:

1 - \$2,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by USW Local 1013 & 2122)

This year, our essay topic will be: ***“Explain how union membership has been a benefit to your family.”***

The essay contest is open to current Alabama union members, their spouses, their dependents and their grandchildren that are full or part time post-secondary students. Also, the person applying should be an undergraduate student. All essays must be submitted by **Friday, June 5, 2026**, and the winners will be announced at the 2026 AOLAF Banquet. Enclosed please find an announcement and a contest packet. Please post the announcement and keep copies of the instruction and application forms available for your membership.

Trade Scholarships

This year there will be 7 (seven) “Trade Scholarship” recipients to be awarded as follows:

The 2026 Alabama Power/Alabama AFL-CIO Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$2,500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Alabama Power Company and Alabama AFL-CIO)

The 2026 Robbie Hill Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$2,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by USW Locals 1013)

The 2026 Alabama Power Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$1,250.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Alabama Power Company)

The 2026 Southern Nuclear Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$1,250.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Southern Nuclear Company)

The 2026 Walker-Ennis Memorial Trade Scholarships:

2 - \$500.00 Scholarships

(Funded by Alison Washington/AFLAC)

The 2026 IBEW Scholarship:

1 - 500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by IBEW Local 136)

Application Form and Cover Page

Applicant Name: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

I am a: _____ union member _____ union member's spouse
_____ union member's child _____ other (please specify): _____

Union Member's Name: _____ Union/Local: _____

Date of High School Graduation: _____

Name of High School and City: _____

College or University Attending: _____

Major Course of Study: _____

Academic Standing: _____ Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____ Other

The above information accurately describes the achievements and plans of the applicant. If there are changes in this information, we will contact the Alabama Organized Labor Awards Foundation (AOLAF).

Signature of Union Member

Signature of Applicant

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS ONLY

Tips for Writing a Good Essay

This year we have many scholarships being offered! Put some time and effort into researching, writing and typing your essay. Your judges are used to grading the papers of college students, so they expect you to show that you're capable of doing a good job at the college level.

Essay Topic: Explain how union membership has been a benefit to your family.

Essay length: 300-500 words

Essay format: Typed on 8 ½ x 11 paper

Double Spaced

Use black – not blue, red or green – ink!

Do not put your name or the name of the union member on the essay

Research: Read! Use books, magazines, journals or newspapers to get information. Talk to your family members and friends about unions.

Do NOT use an encyclopedia!

Be very careful if you use the Internet. Make sure your source is credible

Analysis: Integrate what you've read with your experiences and those of your family and community

Apply what you've read to the essay topic

Writing: Be sure to indicate when you are quoting from a source

Document your sources

Proofread your essay to make sure that your grammar and spelling are correct!

Have a teacher or other trusted adult read your essay

Attached: ___ Essay

___ Verification of Enrollment

___ Verification of Union Membership

Mail by **Friday, June 5, 2026**, to: **Alabama Organized Labor Awards Foundation**

P O Box 1841

Birmingham, AL 35234

Instructions for Applicants

- Purpose: To help qualified union-affiliated college students meet the expenses of college
- To encourage reading and research on labor history
- To connect the legacy of labor to personal life experiences
- Eligibility: Current Alabama union members, their spouses, their dependents and their grandchildren
- Applicant must be a full or part-time postsecondary student for fall semester 2026
- Applicant must submit verification of enrollment and proof of union affiliation with the scholarship application and essay
- Deadline: Applications must be postmarked by **Friday, June 5, 2026**
- To apply:
1. Fill out the application form
 2. Read the tips for writing a good essay
 3. Write a good essay
 4. Attach the essay and application form to the enrollment verification and union card
- Mail the whole package by **Friday, June 5, 2026**, to:

Alabama Organized Labor Awards Foundation

P O Box 1841

Birmingham, AL 35234

Application Form and Cover Page

Applicant Name: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

I am a: _____ union member _____ union member's spouse
_____ union member's child other (please specify): _____

Union Member's Name: _____ Union/Local: _____

Date of High School Graduation: _____

Name of High School and City: _____

Union Accredited Pre-Apprenticeship or Apprenticeship Program: _____

Accredited Technical College Attending: _____

Major Course of Study: _____

Academic Standing: _____ Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____ Other

The above information accurately describes the achievements and plans of the applicant. If there are changes in this information, we will contact the Alabama Organized Labor Awards Foundation (AOLAF).

Signature of Union Member

Signature of Applicant

Attached: _____ Two (2) letters of recommendation

_____ Verification of Enrollment

_____ Verification of Union Membership

Mail by **Friday, June 5, 2026**, to:

Alabama Organized Labor Awards Foundation

c/o TRADE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

P O Box 1841

Birmingham, AL 35234

2026 ALABAMA ORGANIZED LABOR AWARDS FOUNDATION TRADE SCHOLARSHIPS

Instructions for Applicants

Scholarships: 1 - \$2,500.00 funded by ***Alabama Power & Alabama AFL-CIO***
1 - \$2,500.00 funded by ***USW Local 1013 & 2122***
1 - \$1,250.00 funded by ***Alabama Power***
1 - \$1,250.00 funded by ***Southern Nuclear***
2 - \$500.00 funded by ***Alison Washington/AFLAC***
1 - \$500.00 funded by ***IBEW Local 136***

Purpose: To help qualified union-affiliated high school and/or college students meet the expenses
a union accredited pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship program and/or an accredited
technical college

Eligibility: The applicant should be a union member or a family member of a union member
The applicant must already be accepted into a union accredited pre-apprenticeship or
apprenticeship program and/or an accredited technical college

The applicant will have to submit two (2) letters of recommendation:

- One letter from a non-family union member in good standing
- One letter from his/her instructor (either high school, apprenticeship program or technical college)

This year there will be 6 (six) “**Trade Scholarship**” recipients to be awarded as follows:

The 2026 Alabama Power/Alabama AFL-CIO Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$2,500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Alabama Power Company and Alabama AFL-CIO)

The 2026 Alabama Power Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$1,250.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Alabama Power Company)

The 2026 Southern Nuclear Trade Scholarship:

1 - \$1,250.00 Scholarship

(Funded by Southern Nuclear Company)

The 2026 Walker-Ennis Memorial Trade Scholarships:

2 - \$500.00 Scholarships

(Funded by Alison Washington/AFLAC)

The 2026 IBEW Scholarship:

1 - 500.00 Scholarship

(Funded by IBEW Local 136)

The 2026 Robbie Hill Trade Scholarship:

1 – 2,000.00 Scholarship

(Funded by USW Local 1013 & 2122)

The applicant for this type of scholarship should be a union member or a family member of a union member. The applicant must be already accepted into a union accredited pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship program and/or an accredited technical college. All applications for the Trade Scholarship must be submitted by **Friday, June 5, 2026** and the winners will be announced at the 2026 AOLAF Banquet. Enclosed please find an announcement and an application form. Please post the announcement and keep copies of the application forms available for your membership.

Applicant must submit verification of enrollment and proof of union affiliation with the scholarship application

Deadline: Applications must be postmarked by **Friday, June 5, 2026**

To apply:

1. Fill out the application form
2. Provide 2 letters of recommendation as noted above
3. Attach the letters of recommendation, enrollment verification and union affiliation to the application form

Mail the whole package by **Friday, June 5, 2026**