



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Winter 2026

2026 OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program

TO: High School's Name

RE: 2026 OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program Activation

Dear Athletic Administrator:

The Ohio High School Athletic Association is proud to announce the continuance of the OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program for 2026. The OHSAA and its six District Athletic Boards annually award \$200,000 in college scholarships to 200 high school graduates after selections are made by each of the OHSAA's six District Athletic Boards. Each of the 200 scholarships will receive a one-time, non-renewable \$1,000 award.

This email contains your school scholarship administrator's login information along with instructions to activate and submit the applications for your **2026 OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship** candidates. The login is currently active. Before moving forward with the 2026 information, please read this important note in the box. We ask that you share this with you students and parents.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON THE OHSAA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE PROGRAM: Students and parents should be aware that the OHSAA has two (2) **separate** scholar-athlete recognition opportunities. Besides the Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program outlined in this memo, in which a \$1,000 monetary award is provided, each member high school has the opportunity to present a senior male and a senior female with an OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award, a certificate which exemplifies the commitment to academic excellence while participating in interscholastic athletics and is generally presented during the school's senior assembly in the spring. While each honor is important, these awards are different since not every member school will have a scholar-athlete scholarship recipient, but each school has the opportunity to present two OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Awards. OHSAA Scholar-Athlete certificates are available in your school's myOHSAA account.

The principal, or designee, is responsible for ensuring that only the most qualified student-athletes complete the applications. Please collaborate and communicate with staff members throughout your school to establish who shall be nominated. For scholarship consideration, each school may submit only:

- one male,
- one female,
- one male ethnic minority and
- one female ethnic minority.

Each candidate must meet these minimum qualifications:

- Must be a graduating senior
- Minimum grade point average – 3.25 on a 4.0 scale upon completion of the seventh semester (Note: GPAs must be converted to a 4.0 scale)
- Must have received a minimum of three varsity letters in one **OHSAA sanctioned** sport or four varsity letters in a combination of any two or more **OHSAA sanctioned** sports
- **IMPORTANT NOTE: RECIPIENTS OF ANY ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS (FULL OR PARTIAL) IN NCAA DIVISION I OR DIVISION II INSTITUTIONS OR APPOINTEES TO MILITARY ACADEMIES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE**

HERE ARE THE STEPS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

1. SCREENING PROCESS

Schools should develop a screening process to select the top male, top female, top ethnic minority male and top ethnic minority female candidates. Once the candidates have been selected, the school scholarship administrator will activate the scholarship applications online.

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2. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ACTIVATION

The school scholarship administrator designated to oversee the scholar-athlete application process must activate the applications online before your nominated students can receive access.

- Go to <http://www.ohsaaforms.org/members/scholar/login.asp>. Please do not make the link available to the public as this competition is run through the schools.

- Enter the username and password below:

User name: Unique Name (sent to each school's athletic administrator)

Password: Unique Password (sent to each school's athletic administrator)

- Enter the name and contact information for the school scholarship administrator that will be responsible for the application process (typically, this is either the school principal or athletic administrator).
- Enter the name and contact information of the school counselor who will enter the students' academic information.
- Enter the name and contact information for each of the four scholarship candidates.
- Submit the activation of the scholarship applications.

3. SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATOR NEXT STEPS

Once the applications are activated, the school scholarship administrator **will need to notify each candidate AND the guidance counselor via e-mail of their unique account login credentials** (this is so that nothing gets trapped in spam folders or stopped by school firewalls). The school scholarship administrator will have the option to click a link to open an e-mail message for each candidate and the guidance counselor directly in an e-mail application, or they can copy and paste text into a blank e-mail message. **Please follow up with each individual to ensure receipt of these emails. We recommend that you login periodically to check each phase of the application process.** If any

issues occur, please contact Bob Goldring at the OHSAA at bgoldring@ohsaa.org or 614-267-2502 x 116. Student login credentials allow access to the student's application. School counselor login credentials allow access to each student application. Further, counselors can track the progress of each application. Similarly, the school scholarship administrative login allows for access to each candidate's application and displays the progress of the application. Additionally, the school scholarship administrator will have the ability to view the login credentials for their school. **Note: After the students and/or school counselor have submitted their portions of the application, only the school scholarship administrator can make changes to the application.**

4. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION STEPS

There are several steps to the application process that must be completed by the students, school counselors and selected school administrators. **Failure to complete any of the steps will result in an incomplete application, and the student will not be considered for receipt of an award.**

Students:

Students must complete their portion of the application first. Students will enter the athletic honors they have received during their high school participation in **OHSAA sanctioned** sports. Students are to complete their applications prior to **April 10, 2026**. Students that have indicated on their application that they will participate in a 2026 spring sport will have from **May 1, 2026**, to noon on **June 15, 2026**, to complete an addendum to their athletic honors section. Once the student completes and submits their application, the student will need to notify both the school counselor and school scholarship administrator. The student will have an option of clicking a link to open an e-mail message directly in an e-mail application or copy and paste text into a blank e-mail message. **Important:** Students **MUST** list a **cellular telephone number** so that those selected as winners can be notified (which likely will occur when the school year is completed).

School Counselor:

The school counselor must add the academic information to each student's application after the student has submitted their information (must be done prior to them filling out their spring sport addendum if they'll have one). The information includes the student's number in their graduating class, the student's rank in the class, and the student's GPA on a 4.0 scale. **Note:** Access prior to the student's submission is restricted. Encourage your students to directly notify the school counselor once they have completed their portion so the counselor can complete theirs.

School Scholarship Administrator:

After the students and school counselor have submitted their portions of the application, only the administrator can make changes to the application. Upon submission of the school counselor's portion, an email will be sent to the administrator notifying them that the application is ready for final approval and submission to the District Athletic Board. Applications will be sent electronically upon final submission by the administrator. **DO NOT send any application to your OHSAA District Athletic Board or the OHSAA Executive Director's Office in Columbus.**

5. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMELINE

- **Tuesday, January 27, 2026** – School administrators may begin activating their scholarship applications
- **Friday, April 10, 2026** – Deadline for all student candidates to submit their applications
- **Tuesday, April 28, 2026** – Deadline for school counselors to submit their portion of the applications
- **Friday, May 1, 2026** – Spring sport addendum entry/update opens
- **Monday, June 15, 2026** – Deadline for spring sport addendums to be submitted

6. SCHOLAR-ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIPS PER OHSAA DISTRICT

Central District Schools – 28	Northwest District Schools – 40
East District Schools – 17	Southeast District Schools – 18
Northeast District Schools – 55	Southwest District Schools – 42

7. ONLY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED IF THEY HAVE WON

Only the students who have been awarded an OHSAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarship will be informed that they have been selected. This will take place once final decisions have been made by each respective OHSAA District Athletic Board following the June 15, 2026, addendum deadline.

8. HOW TO CLAIM THE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

A letter from the OHSAA Executive Director's Office will be provided to the scholarship winners with details on how to claim the scholarship money. **Some** OHSAA District Athletic Boards may host a banquet this summer to recognize their district's recipients. If that is the case, informational letters will be provided in-person. If a district does not host a banquet or a student cannot attend one that is held, the informational letter will be emailed directly to the student. Note that students have 12 months to claim their scholarship money.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association is very pleased to continue this scholarship program. **We strongly encourage active communication within your building regarding the scholar-athlete application process since it is truly a team effort.**

Thank you for your work in the selection process!