Friends of the Elmwood Park Library
2019 Scholarship

Are you graduating high school? Are you thinking of continuing your schooling? It can be expensive to do so, but every little bit helps, and the Friends of the Elmwood Park Public Library want to help!

Scholarship Details:

The Friends of the Elmwood Park Public Library offer one $500 scholarship each year (or two depending on financial availability) to an Elmwood Park young adult who will be attending their first year of college or trade school, and has been an active volunteer with the Elmwood Park Public Library and the Friends of the Library.

Requirements:

In order to qualify for the scholarship, you must:

• Complete a total of 35 volunteer hours:
  o 20 volunteer hours with the Elmwood Park Public Library
  o 15 volunteer hours with the Friends of the Library
  o 10 out of the 35 hours must be completed within the last 12 months
  o Overall, the required 35 hours must be completed between 8th grade and the time of application

Application & Deadline:

Once you have finished volunteering, you may apply by completing and submitting the following items by the March 4 deadline, either in person to the Elmwood Park Public Library, attention: Maureen Delaney -OR- via email to Maureen Delaney at mdelaney@elmwoodparklibrary.org:

• A short essay, no more than 1 page, discussing your volunteer experiences, what volunteering means to you, and what your goals are for schooling.
• A letter of support from someone outside of the Elmwood Park Public Library.
• A copy of your acceptance letter from the institution where you plan to attend.
• The completed, attached application.

Timeline & Reward:

Applications will be reviewed between March-May. Applicants will be notified of the decision by the end of May, and recipients will be awarded at the Friends meeting in June, or at the recipient’s school award ceremony if a decision should be made early enough to do so. Once you have been notified that you are being awarded, you must provide final proof of your intent to attend the named institution.
How to Volunteer with the Friends:

Volunteer activities with the Friends may include:

- Assisting with book sales, including sorting, promotion, setup, day of help, and cleanup
- Assisting with evaluating donations, prices, and value for non-sale avenues
- Assisting with occasional Friends-sponsored programs

Please contact either Sean Gilmartin (Teen Librarian) or Jason Stuhlmann (Assistant Director) for more information. Please note that we cannot accommodate last minute requests to take on volunteers.

How to Volunteer with the Library:

Volunteer activities with the Library may include, but are not limited to:

- Cleaning and dusting, both of books and DVDs, but of the Library itself
- Program help, including assisting with crafts, photography, activities, summer reading, etc.
- Project assistance, including stickering and labeling, searching for items, etc.

For more information and an application, please visit the Library’s website. You may fill out and return the volunteer application to either Jason Stuhlmann or Sean Gilmartin. Please note that we cannot accommodate last minute requests to take on volunteers, as our volunteer opportunities are based on the Library’s need, staff availability, and demand.

FAQ:

Q: I do not live in Elmwood Park but have volunteered. Can I still apply?
A: No, you must be an Elmwood Park resident.

Q: I received this scholarship last year. Can I apply again?
A: No, each recipient may only receive this scholarship one time.

Q: I have not received this scholarship before, but I’ve already spent some time at college. Can I still apply for the scholarship for one of my remaining years before graduation?
A: No, this scholarship is only for those attending their first year of continuing education. But the Library does offer practicum and internship opportunities. Visit the Library’s website for details.