



Ohio Lactation Consultant Association

Mission Statement: To be the voice of Ohio Lactation Consultants in their efforts to transform society into a breastfeeding culture. To empower, support, and educate our membership enabling them to be articulate agents for change.

Scholarship Information, Rules and Requirements

- OLCA provides scholarships for professional development in the area of lactation.
- The number of scholarships offered each year depends on the annual budget. Scholarships for up to \$700 each are awarded.
- Award may be used for conference registration, professional development, or any related expenses.
- Priority will be given to those seeking certification through IBCLE.

Reimbursement:

- Scholarships are a reimbursement award. The funds are reimbursed to recipient once the course has been attended and the receipt and certificate of completion is submitted to the treasurer of OLCA. If scholarship funds are being used for the IBLCE exam, reimbursement will be considered upon receipt of payment. The receipt of payment must be within one year of award or award will be forfeited. Scholarship funds may only be used for the exam fees once per person (lifetime). Hardship situations will be taken into consideration and funding may be provided in advance when necessary. Checks must be cashed within 90 days, unused funds will be returned to OLCA. Funds must be used within one year of award.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be OLCA members at the time of application (an OLCA membership application with payment included with the scholarship application is acceptable). Hardship situations may be taken into consideration and the membership requirement may be waived; applicants must notify the Vice President of such a situation.
- Applicants must currently reside or work in Ohio.
- Priority will be given to first time applicants/recipients.
- Applicants may apply for both a grant and a scholarship, but may only be awarded one or the other each year.

Selection:

- A committee will determine who will be awarded a scholarship. Committee may be comprised of VP, a LLL leader, 1- 2 OLCA members (non-board), peer helper, or a community member not affiliated with OLCA with basic breastfeeding knowledge.
The committee may also be the OLCA Board.
 - Committee members who apply for a scholarship will recuse themselves from the committee.
Scholarship Committee members may not write a letter of reference for applicants.
- Scholarship recipients will receive an email or letter with reimbursement instructions.
- Winners will be notified at the annual conference.
- A brief summary of the winners and their scholarship application may be announced at the annual conference, printed in the newsletter, or posted on the OLCA website.
- All Scholarship Committee decisions are final.

All completed applications, together with all necessary supplemental documents, must be received by January 15, 2019.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Acknowledgement of receipt of application does not indicate completeness of application. It is the applicant's responsibility to be sure the application is complete.