

*\$12,000 in awards!*



# Application for the **2024** OCSEA Les Best Dependents' College/Vocational Scholarship

## DEPENDENTS' COLLEGE & VOCATIONAL



## Les Best Scholarship

For OCSEA members' dependents who are undergraduate students entering or already enrolled full-time in a college or university; or students entering or enrolled full-time in a vocational, trade or technical school or a union apprenticeship.

Four \$2,000 awards OR three \$2,000 awards and two \$1,000 awards for the 2024/2025 school year, beginning in the fall. Applicants can apply in one category (member, spouse or dependent) for the Les Best Scholarship. Applications in more than one category will not be accepted.

**Scholarship Deadline: April 30, 2024**

## Who was Les Best?



- Les Best was an Ohio Civil Service Employees Association state officer and former math teacher at the Ohio Veterans Children's Home. Believing in OCSEA's dedication to improving the quality of life for its members and their children, Best felt an obligation to promote higher education and training.
- In 1989, he proposed that OCSEA begin a scholarship for the children of active members and retirees.
- Les Best died that same year, having served OCSEA for 10 years as an officer and 22 years as a member of its Board of Directors. Best was loved by many and his memory and dedication lives on through the Les Best Scholarship.

# Dependents' Scholarship ✓ Checklist

## 1. Complete the application form

Include the requested Social Security information for the applicant and the member (OCSEA requires only the last four digits of members' Social Security numbers. Schools require full Social Security numbers of student recipients when processing the scholarship awards.)

Don't overlook No. 8 on the application: name and address of educational institution. We must have this information to send the award check.

## 2. Submit acceptance letter or proof of enrollment for the Fall of 2024

If you haven't been accepted to an institution of higher learning yet, please give proof of application and estimated date of acceptance notification.

## 3. Submit the essay

Compose a 500-1,000 word essay on the following question, and print your essay on a white 8.5" x 11" paper:

*"OCSEA and other unions have a younger and younger membership. Why are unions still relevant for young workers and workers newly entering the workplace? What are some of the important benefits for young workers?"*

The scholarship essays are a **major** part of your application score. We encourage you to draw from personal experiences, using examples demonstrating how this issue would affect working families like your own.

## 4. Submit the Academic/Professional Reference form in this packet

Ask your academic advisor, teacher/professor, or colleague to complete the **Academic/Professional Reference form** in this packet. They may either return it to you to send in with the rest of your application materials, or they may send it directly to OCSEA.

## 5. Provide a transcript

All students applying for this scholarship must obtain either an official high school transcript, or a college transcript from the college you are currently attending.

Transcripts should be sent to **OCSEA Les Best Scholarship Fund, 390 Worthington Rd Ste. A, Westerville, OH 43082.** (Please allow your college records office at least three weeks to process your request.)

## 6. Submit additional academic achievement records

(Required for graduating high school seniors only. Not applicable for students enrolling in vocational, trade or technical schools.)

Submit the results of your Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), or American College Test (ACT). The scores can be reported directly to OCSEA.

- On registration forms for the SAT, applicants should write the OCSEA code number **6446** in item 11a.
- On registration forms for the ACT, applicants should write the OCSEA code number **4802** in block "U."
- Applicants may also write or call the testing organizations to have scores reported to OCSEA. The testing organizations may be reached at: ACT Records, P.O. Box 451, Iowa City, IA 52243, 319-337-1313; or College Board ATP, SAT Records, CN 6201, Princeton, NJ 08541-6201, 609-771-7600.
- Or you may send an original copy or a photocopy of your test scores. If the official SAT or ACT scores are recorded on the high school transcript, it is sufficient to simply highlight the results and eliminate the step of sending the scores separately.

## 7. Meet the application deadline

All application materials must be sent to:

**OCSEA Les Best Scholarship Fund  
390 Worthington Road- Ste. A  
Westerville, OH 43082**

All application materials must be postmarked **no later than April 30, 2024.**

## About the Les Best Scholarship Program...

Dear Les Best Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the 2024 Les Best Scholarship Fund. This application contains everything you need to apply for this scholarship. To be eligible, qualified applicants must submit all required application materials. Use the checklist above to ensure you have all the requested requirements. You are strongly encouraged to write the required essay early to avoid getting "bogged down" near the deadline. The selection committee members report that they enjoy reading essays that include personal experiences in addition to ones that draw from historical data or current trends.

All required application materials must be received **no later than April 30, 2024.**

Should you have questions or would need to discuss special circumstances, call OCSEA at **800-969-4702** or locally, **614-865-4733** and refer to the Les Best Scholarship.

We wish you the best as you seek to further your education.

**Lisa Schroeder**

OCSEA Public Relations & Membership  
Committee Chair, Les Best Scholarship Fund

# Dependents' College/Vocational Scholarship Application

## PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

- Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant SS#: (required) \_\_\_\_\_ OCSEA member's last 4 digits of SS# (required): \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
- OCSEA member's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency OCSEA member works for: \_\_\_\_\_  
OCSEA member address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. no. \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone: ( ) - Work phone: ( ) - Home e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
- Applicant's street address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. no. \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone: ( ) - Work phone: ( )
- High school: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other/post secondary: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Union activism (past or present), service to the community and any academic/extra-curricular activities (past or present) of applicant.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- List any offices held and honors received through community and academic/extra-curricular activities of applicant.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Have you had a job while in school (average hours per week)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of educational institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scholarship office phone: \_\_\_\_\_
- Your projected college graduation date? Month: Year: \_\_\_\_\_
- College major/minor or area of study? \_\_\_\_\_
- Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SELECTION COMMITTEE USE ONLY:

### Dependent College/Vocational Scoring

Essay \_\_\_\_\_ x 9 = \_\_\_\_\_

Community Service/

Union Leadership/Honors \_\_\_\_\_ x 5 = \_\_\_\_\_

Achievement \_\_\_\_\_ x 5 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total score \_\_\_\_\_



# Academic/Professional Reference

**Due April 30, 2024**

Return to applicant before this deadline or mail directly to:

**OCSEA LES BEST SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
390 WORTHINGTON ROAD - STE. A  
WESTERVILLE, OH 43082**

Dear Scholarship Reference:

The individual who provided this form to you is an applicant for an Ohio Civil Service Employees Association Les Best Scholarship. OCSEA/AFSCME Local 11 represents 27,000 state and other public employees. To learn more about our labor union, visit **OCSEA.org**. To aid the selection process, the Scholarship Selection Committee must obtain the following information regarding the applicant's character, abilities and performance. The information will be used only by the Scholarship Selection Committee. If more space is needed, please attach a sheet. You may give this form back to the applicant or mail it to OCSEA yourself (address above) by **April 30, 2024**. Thank you.

1. Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job title: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. School/Organization/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

College/phone: (     )     - \_\_\_\_\_

4. How long have you known the applicant?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your general evaluation of the applicant's character academically/personally?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Sometimes special circumstances should be considered when evaluating applicant's professional and academic achievements, records and test scores. If there are any, please specify.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_