

YODER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2026

Eligibility

The Scholarship is to be awarded for the second, third and/or fourth years of undergraduate study at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and/or Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. Recipients are to be active participants in the University of Michigan Lutheran Campus Ministry – Lord of Light Lutheran Church. Scholarships are not to be contingent on the pursuit of any particular degree or vocational choice. Winners of a previous year’s scholarship are not to be excluded from consideration the following year.

Application

Students may apply during their first, second or third years of study. **All applications are to be received by April 17, 2026.** Applicants will provide a copy of their most recent transcript (to include grades from Fall Term). Transfer students who have at least one semester of grades on record at UM or EMU are also eligible. Applicants will provide written responses to the following questions:

In our baptism, Christ has called each of us to serve others in our daily life and daily work. How do you see your presence here as a student at the University and your current career plans in that light? (Please limit your response to 500 words.)

In what ways would receiving this Scholarship ease the strain caused by the costs of your education for the coming year? (Please limit your response to 100 words.)

All Applicants will have a letter supporting their application prepared for the Selection Committee. The letter may be from a peer, instructor/professor, pastor, family friend, or other person who can discuss the applicant’s qualifications for this Scholarship.

Award

The number and amount of the scholarship will be announced each year. For 2026-27, there is one scholarship of \$1,000.00 available.

Selection Process

The President of the Lutheran Campus Ministry Board will appoint, by November 30 each academic year, at least one Board member to serve on the Selection Committee. The balance of the three-person committee may consist of members of the local Lutheran community. The President of the Board will appoint each of them. Neither the pastor nor active members of Lord of Light Lutheran Church shall be appointed to serve on this Committee. The Committee will review with each (or the most promising of the applicants depending on their number) for a 20 minute interview, and come to a decision as to the recipient(s) of that year’s scholarship(s).

Criteria

Applicants’ statements of understanding of the commitment to their baptismal vocation should be weighted most heavily. The Scholarship is not intended to be a recognition of excellent academic achievement. Rather, applicants need only be students in good standing with the University of Michigan or Eastern Michigan University (minimum GPA of 2.5). Letters of support for students’ applications, their personal statements of “financial need”, and the comments during the interview should also be considered in the selection process.