

ArLA Annual Scholarship Statement of Policy

The Arkansas Library Association invites applications for its annual scholarship for graduate study in librarianship. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must meet the following conditions:

1. Applicants must be a legal resident of Arkansas and hold or be completing work toward a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and be a non-library school graduate.
2. Applicants must be currently accepted and enrolled in an American Library Association accredited program leading to a master's degree in library science. An applicant who is a current graduate student must submit to the ArLA Scholarship Committee an official transcript from an ALA accredited library school. An applicant just beginning their program of study must submit proof of enrollment in an ALA accredited library school.
3. Applications will be considered from persons already employed in libraries provided that they have been accepted and are currently enrolled in an ALA accredited program in library science.
4. To apply for the scholarship, applicants must submit an ArLA Scholarship application form, a letter of application, a resume, and at least three letters of reference from individuals qualified to address the academic and professional potential of the candidate.
5. The basis of selection of recipients shall be: 1) applicant's interest in librarianship as a profession, 2) academic record, 3) references. Awards are made without regard to race, sex, age, religion, or ethnic background.
6. Recipients must: 1) be a legal resident of the State of Arkansas, and 2) within one year of completing their graduate program, accept or maintain professional employment in a library or in a library related position in Arkansas, and 3) after accepting or maintaining such employment, continue to work in a library or in a library related position in Arkansas for at least one year, and 4) maintain membership in the Arkansas Library Association during the one year period of required employment in a library or library related position in Arkansas.
7. Recipients will be required to sign a promissory note agreeing to repay the Arkansas Library Association the amount of the scholarship unless the conditions set out herein are completed. Upon graduation and employment, recipients must provide the Arkansas Library Association with an official transcript showing the completion of their prescribed course of graduate studies and an official letter from their workplace verifying their employment in a library or library related position in Arkansas.
8. The Scholarship Committee of the Arkansas Library Association reserves the right to make no award.
A completed ArLA Scholarship application form, a letter of application from the applicant, an official transcript, a resume and three letters of reference must be received by the ArLA Scholarship Committee postmarked no later than September 1 to be eligible for consideration.

ArLA Scholarship applications should be mailed to:
Arkansas Library Association
PO Box 3821
Little Rock, AR 72203
501-313-1398
Email: info@arlib.org