Scholarship: Eligibility and Requirements

The Danish Sisterhood of America is very proud of its Scholarship and Grant Program. We have four different scholarships, one of which presently offers six awards per year, and one grant program offering ten awards annually—five are given in February (the "January Round") and five in September (the "August Round"). These scholarships and grants are available to members of the Danish Sisterhood and their children, regardless of age.

Our Scholarship and Grant Program is made possible through generous endowments and memorial funds and are being supplemented by donations from individual members, lodges, and districts of the Danish Sisterhood. No membership dues are used to support these scholarships and grants.

At the time when the scholarship and grant funds were established, the donors—all with strong ties to the Danish Sisterhood—made stipulations regarding eligibility, to which we are legally bound to adhere.

The longevity of the scholarship and grant programs is dependent upon investment returns as well as donations. Such donations are crucial to the program’s continuance—and are very much appreciated.

PAST NATIONAL OFFICERS’ SCHOLARSHIP | ONE AVAILABLE EACH YEAR FOR $500
The applicant must:
- Be selected as a concurrent Betty Hansen National Scholarship winner.
- Be a Danish Sisterhood member in good standing for a minimum of one year prior to the scholarship deadline.
- Have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.8 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
  Note: This scholarship will be awarded at the discretion of the National Board, upon recommendation by the Scholarship Chairman.

BETTY HANSEN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP | UP TO SIX AVAILABLE EACH YEAR FOR $2500
The applicant must:
- Have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be a full time student enrolled in or entering an accredited four-year college or university as a graduate or undergraduate student.
  Note: This scholarship may be used for study in Denmark upon written request, with the approval of the Scholarship Chairman.

MILDRED SORENSEN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP | ONE AVAILABLE EACH YEAR FOR $1000
The applicant must:
- Have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be a high school graduate enrolled in a technical (vocational) educational program leading to a certificate, diploma, an associate degree, or higher.

OLGA CHRISTENSEN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP | ONE AVAILABLE EACH YEAR FOR $1000
The applicant must:
- Have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be a high school graduate enrolled in a technical (vocational) educational program leading to an associate degree or higher.

ELIZABETH GARDE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP | ONE AVAILABLE EACH YEAR FOR $850
The applicant must:
- Have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be a post high school student or graduate student seeking a degree in nursing or other medical profession.
  Note: A person can only receive this award once.
Scholarship: Timeline

All scholarship applications are due on March 1, and are awarded for study commencing in the fall of the year of application. First time applicants will be given priority consideration over previous scholarship winners. New: A person can receive a maximum of 2 (two) National Scholarships (except the Elizabeth Garde National Scholarship which can be received only once).

Scholarship: Deadline

All National Scholarships: March 1
Verification of Matriculation (first semester): October 31
Verification of Matriculation (second semester): December 15

*Deadlines indicate the date by which the application must be post-marked.*
National Scholarship Application

Check only one:

Betty Hansen Scholarship

Mildred Sorensen Scholarship

Olga Christensen Scholarship

Elizabeth Garde Nursing Scholarship

I. SPONSOR

Lodge No._________ Name of Lodge Sponsoring Applicant ____________________________

Contact Person_____________________________________________ Phone ______________________________

Address ____________________________________________________ Email ______________________________

City_________________________ State_________ Zip ________________

The sponsoring lodge has read and understands the information outlined on the instruction sheet that is included with this application. The sponsoring lodge signed below agrees to accept responsibility for assisting the Scholarship Chairperson in obtaining information as requested on the instruction sheets and the application.

Approved by ____________________________________________, Lodge President or Secretary Date ______________

OR: h I belong to Lodge #300 OR: h I am a daughter/son of a Lodge #300 member

II. APPLICANT

Applicant’s Full Name________________________ Phone ______________________________

Permanent Address _______________________________ Email ______________________________

City_________________________ State_________ Zip ________________

Are you a member of the Danish Sisterhood? h Yes, Lodge#__________ h No

OR: h Son h Daughter of___________________________________________(parent’s name) Lodge No. _________

Have you received a DSS Scholarship before? h Yes If so, what year? _____________ h No

Date of applicant or member initiation __________________________

III. DECLARATION

I have read and understand the information outlined in the instruction sheet that is included with this application. I declare that all of the information being submitted on this and subsequent pages is true and accurate.

Applicant’s Signature_________________________________________ Date __________________________
IV. SCHOOLS ATTENDED

A. High School/Vocational School

City and State
Graduation Date

B. If you did not graduate from high school, did you pass a G.E.D test?  
   - Yes, Date
   - No

C. College(s)/Post-graduate schools attended if applicable

1. Name

City and State

2. Name

City and State

Attended
   - Full time
   - Part time
   Attendance dates to

Graduated
   - Yes
   - Degree/Certificate earned
   - No

V. ACADEMICS

Test(s) taken: Check all applicable tests; if other is checked, please explain.

- American College Test (A.C.T)
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (S.A.T.)
- National Merit Scholarship Qualification Test
- College Entrance Examination Board (C.E.E.B.)
- Other (be specific, especially if a Canadian resident):

V(a). NON-TRADITIONAL | out of high school five or more years

A. List educational goals/reason for graduate study:

IMPORTANT NOTE:
Applicant must provide official, certified transcripts of all schools and colleges attended. Also applicant must provide official transcripts of test scores and verification of awards granted. (Test scores may be included on the high school transcript.) If out of high school five or more years, a high school transcript is not required, please include any special recognition, achievements, etc. received since your high school years.
VI. List any academic awards or honors received during high school or college, including honor roll, Dean’s list, honor societies, etc.

VI (a). List special recognition, awards, achievements, etc. received since your high school years.

VII. List any Danish Sisterhood activities and/or positions held; any civic, political and/or church activities in which you have participated and the position held or committees on which you have served.

VIII. List any special talents or hobbies you may have.

IX. List previous and/or current employment record during the past five years. Name the employer, city and state, and length of service. List hours worked per week.

X. What occupation or profession do you wish to pursue?
XI. Name the institution you plan to attend or are attending:

________________________________________________________________________

Address of the institution’s financial office:

________________________________________________________________________

Estimated annual cost of attending this institution: ________________________________

XII. Outline briefly how this scholarship will contribute towards your goal. Include information about any special financial needs or special circumstances that would be of value to the scholarship committee.

XIII. Submit at least two but no more than three references in original letter form to the Scholarship Chairperson. These may be from a clergyman, teacher, employer, or neighbor, for example. Please indicate below the name and relationship of your references.

1. Name: __________________________ Relationship: ____________________________
2. Name: __________________________ Relationship: ____________________________
3. Name: __________________________ Relationship: ____________________________ 

The National Board reserves the right to refrain from making an award in any of the categories, in a given year. It also reserves the right to change the category of nomination, as it deems appropriate.
Scholarship Guidelines | page 1

Information and Instructions for filing applications for the BETTY HANSEN National Scholarship, MILDRED SORENSEN National Scholarship, OLGA CHRISTENSEN National Scholarship and ELIZABETH GARDE National Scholarship.

1. Applicant must be:
   a. A Danish Sisterhood member in good standing in the sponsoring lodge
   b. A Danish Sisterhood member initiated for a minimum of one year prior to the application deadline.
   c. OR the daughter/son of Danish Sisterhood member as listed in a or b above.
   d. OR the daughter/son of a Danish Sisterhood member who was in good standing at the time of her death.
   e. Have a Grade Point Average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
   f. For the Elizabeth Garde, GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

2. Applications may be submitted by:
   a. Those planning to enroll in an accredited college or university.
   b. Those planning to enroll in a nationally recognized or state approved private or public school at the post high school level with career goals in mind.
   c. Those already enrolled in an institution cited in a. or b.

3. The application must be complete and accurate. Applicants are to provide all the information requested. Please type or print. Do not use the back of any page. If more space is needed to complete any questions, use only one additional sheet the same size as the application.

4. Approval of the applications by the sponsoring lodge is mandatory. The responsibility of the sponsoring lodge is to verify that the applicants meet the requirements set forth herein. Lodges may submit any number of applications for scholarship awards. Sponsoring lodges shall assist the Scholarship Chairman in obtaining information as requested on the Information and Instruction sheet and the application.

5. Transcripts:
   a. Applicants must provide the Scholarship Committee with official transcripts from high schools or technical schools attended. Official standardized test scores must be included. If a G.E.D. test was taken in lieu of graduation from a high school, verification of satisfactory completion must be submitted.
   b. Applicants that have attended or are attending colleges, universities, or post high school institutions as cited above, must provide the Committee with official transcripts.
   c. All transcripts are to be mailed by the applicant to the Scholarship Chairman in the same mailing as the application. The Transcript Certification Form must be completed and signed by the Registrar/Guidance Counselor and attached to the to the transcript. Replicated, duplicated, or student copies will void the application.

6. Non-traditional student (Section Va.) For an applicant that has been out of high school more than five years, submit any information that would be important as to your goal for further education. Include information relating to classes, seminars, activities, etc. that would be beneficial in judging your scholarship application.

—continued on next page
7. Two, no more than three, original and current letters of character reference in sealed envelopes must be submitted with the completed application. For those who are employed, one must be from your employer and include the average number of hours worked per week by the applicant.

8. Scholarship awards are for educational use only. Award checks will be made out to the institution and may be used for matriculation fees, tuition fees, and general school fees. Awards are not to be used for personal items such as clothing, entertainment, travel, athletic or social events.

9. The scholarship must be used in the year in which it is awarded.

10. Awards are not transferable.

11. Recipients are responsible for verifying that they have been accepted or are continuing as full time students at their indicated schools. Matriculation proof must be received by the Scholarship Chairman by October 31, or the award may be forfeited. Verification of second semester enrollment must be submitted before the second half of the scholarship can be awarded—no later than December 15 to avoid forfeiture!

12. The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to disqualify applicants or to cancel awards if any question is raised regarding the validity of the information contained in the application. Awards may also be cancelled if used for purposes other than those stipulated herein.

13. The National Board reserves the right not to award scholarships.

14. The Elizabeth Garde Scholarship award will be presented in full to the winner on July 20th.

15. Signed applications and all supporting documents shall be sent to:

   Nealna Gylling, DSS National Trustee-Scholarship
   1474 Floan Road Point, Brainerd, MN 56401
   trustee2@danishsisterhood.com

IMPORTANT NOTE:
The application and all requested documents must be postmarked by March 1st. Please use First Class Mail.
Transcript Certification Form
Nealna Gylling, DSS National Trustee-Scholarship
1474 Floan Road Point, Brainerd, MN 56401
trustee2@danishsisterhood.com

I certify that 

(name of student)

has requested an official transcript on __________, and that the student received the transcript

(date)

in an officially sealed envelope to be mailed, by the student, with this form and the scholarship application
to the scholarship chairman.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Registrar/Guidance Counselor: ____________________________________________________________

School: ____________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

______________________________

Signed: ____________________________________________________________