Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services

The Ben Brown Physical and/or Occupational Therapy Scholarship (BBPOTS)

A scholarship program of the Florida State Elks Association

Purpose

To aid applicants that pursue an advanced degree that is favorable to the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services Program and creates awareness of that Program.

- Scholarships will be awarded to applicants who have completed their bachelor's degree and have been admitted to a Florida College or University which offers a master's or doctorate program in Occupational Therapy or a PHD program in Physical Therapy. Each recipient will have to maintain certain achievement levels on an annual basis to continue receiving their scholarships. BBPOTS Committee will be responsible for determining the qualifications for receiving grant (GPA of 3.0 or better on a scale of 4.0, financial need, good morals, school/community involvement, etc.). They must be residents of Florida and submit proof of admission to a college or University in the state of Florida that offers a degree in physical and/or occupational therapy.

- Scholarships will be issued based on overall GPA received by students while achieving their bachelor's degree from an accredited Florida school and financial need of the applicant (only students who have completed their undergraduate degrees are eligible for the scholarship). Total Scholarship per student would be $20,000 for two-year students, and $30,000 for three-year students. $10,000 per year for students in two-year Occupational Therapy program (2nd year funding granted if student has a GPA of 3.0 or more after 1st year). Like the Physical Therapy Program, if the Occupational Therapy Program is for three years, the same rules would apply for 3rd year. $10,000 per year for students in three-year Physical Therapy program (2nd & 3rd year funding granted if student has a GPA of 3.0 or greater after 1st and 2nd year). Any recipient whose GPA falls below 3.0 at any time during their eligibility period will be removed from the program, as verified by College or University transcripts

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for the Ben Brown Physical or Occupational Therapy Scholarship (BBPOTS), you must:

1. Possess a baccalaureate degree or be a member of the current year baccalaureate graduation class, from an accredited American College or University.
2. Have an undergraduate cumulative, Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or more, as verified by College or University transcripts.
3. Be accepted in a master's or Doctorate degree program in Occupational Therapy or a Doctorate degree program in Physical Therapy from a Florida College or University.
4. Demonstrate a financial need for an award.
5. Be a full-time resident of the State of Florida.

Competition

Multiple applications for a single award will be reviewed by a committee of 4 – 6 Elks (the BBPOTS committee) who will be responsible for choosing one recipient annually.

Number of Awards and Amounts

One $10,000 scholarship will be awarded each year so long as the recipient provides a copy of their official college transcripts for that year reflecting a maintained GPA of 3.0 and proof of enrollment.

Total Scholarship is limited to $20,000 to $30,000 for a student enrolled in a two or three-year Occupational Therapy program ($10,000 per year) and $30,000 for a student enrolled in a three-year Physical Therapy program ($10,000 per year).

Each recipient must maintain the achievement levels on an annual basis to continue to receive their scholarship.

Grant/Scholarships checks will be made payable, at the ensuing semester, to the applicable institution for credit to the recipient once proof of enrollment and copy of official college transcripts for that year is received at our state office.

Social Security Number

A Social Security Number is required of all applicants.

Judging Criteria

Scholarship Performance Evaluation, Community involvement, Communication Skills and Financial need are the criteria used for judging applications. The recipient is responsible for providing copies of the source documentation substantiating each criterion.

Source documentation includes a college or University transcript indicating the cumulative GPA, a narrative by the student describing community involvement and permission to access financials. The BBPOTS committee may access records and is solely responsible for determining the applicant's qualifications and competitive rank.

Scoring

Scholarship	600 points
Financial Need	200 points
Community involvement	100 points
Communication skills	100 points
Total possible points	1,000 points

Scholarship

The scholarship, in the form of a certificate, will be presented to the winner at the FSEA Convention held annually in the month of May. It will be presented with the understanding that the applicant will comply with the enrolling and attending program classes at the named College.

Upon receipt of verification from the proper College or University indicating program enrollment, Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services will issue a check in the amount of the award and send it to the College or University and establish a credit in the name of the recipient.

Restrictions on the Use of Scholarship

There is no restriction on the use of the scholarship. It may be used for tuition, lab fees, room and board, transportation, or food.

Unacceptable Conduct

All scholarship recipients are expected to be good citizens and active in the community. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks supports law and order and moral conduct. Recipients are expected to support these goals if they accept an award.

Application packages become the property of the FECTS & BBPOTS Comittee

After completing this application, please make a photocopy for your records. The application and all documentation will become property of the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services and the BBPOTS Committee and will be retained until destroyed.

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Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services

General Instructions

1. Applications must be submitted on the current official three-page scholarship application form. The application must be dated and signed by the student (Page 1).
2. Typewritten applications are preferred over handwritten submissions. Unsigned or incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. Applications and all supporting documents must be in English.
4. When completing the application form, carefully plan a response to each item before typing the final draft. Pay close attention to the requirements for each section and secure all required dates.
5. If more room is needed to compete your responses for pages 2 or 3, you may continue them on one (1) separate sheet referring in the application that they are continued. On the added sheet, type the heading for the question(s) whose answer(s) are being continued on it. Include this sheet as the fourth page of the application.
6. Your application package must contain a statement setting forth your vocational or professional goals. It should relate how your past, present, and future activities and accomplishments make the attainment of this goal probable. The applicant by need and circumstance must demonstrate his/her worthiness. The letter should be typed on an 8.5 by 11-inch page and contain 300 words or less.
7. **The application package, including a response page if needed, must be suitably bound on the left side and it should be arranged in the following order:**

   - ☐ **Three-page application form.** (The scholarship application consists of only three pages. Please do not include the introductory and instructional pages (i through iv) with your application.)
   - ☐ **Answer continuation page for application form.** (One page if needed)
   - ☐ **Official College Transcripts.** (Report of grades reflecting earned credit hours, final grades for school year, and cumulative grade point average.)
   - ☐ **Financials.** (Recent US Tax Return and Assets/Liabilities.)
   - ☐ **Statement setting forth professional goals**

Ben Brown Physical and Occupational Therapy Scholarship

A Scholarship Program of the Florida State Elks Association

2026-2027 Academic Year Application

Name: _____ _____ Social Security #: ____ - ____ - ____
First Last

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ DOB: _____
MM/DD/YYYY

Age: ____ Sex: M☐ F☐ Place of Birth: _____ _____ Citizenship Country: _____
City State

High School History

School Attended: _____ Dates Attended: _____

School Attended: _____ Dates Attended: _____

Date of Graduation: _____ Class Rank: _____ Number of Students in Graduating Class: _____
MM/YYYY

College History (as recipient of bachelor's degree or in process of obtaining)

College Attended: _____ Dates Attended: _____

College Attended: _____ Dates Attended: _____

OT/PT College (school you will be/are currently attending for OT/PT program)

College Name: _____ Anticipated Graduation: _____

Date: _____ **Signature of Student:** _____

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

Applications should be mailed in **hard copy format** and post-marked by **January 16, 2026**

Colleen Gallant, Director
Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services
P.O. Box 49
Umatilla FL, 32784
(If mailed to PO Box through regular postal service, please allow 6 to 10 days to arrive)

For Overnight or Package Delivery ONLY:
Colleen Gallant, Director
Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services
24175 SE Highway 450
Umatilla, FL 32784

Honors and Awards

Include all scholastic, extracurricular, and civic honors or awards earned during the last 4 years:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

Positions of Leadership

Include name of organizations and positions held during the last 4 years:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

Activities and Organizations

Include scholastic, extracurricular, and civic organizations in which you participated for last 4 years:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

Employment History

List employment (both full time and part time) while pursuing bachelor's degree for last 4 years:

1. Employer: Hours per week:

Dates employed: Type of work:

Supervisor name: Phone: Email:

2. Employer: Hours per week:

Dates employed: Type of work:

Supervisor name: Phone: Email:

3. Employer: Hours per week:

Dates employed: Type of work:

Supervisor name: Phone: Email:

4. Employer: Hours per week:

Dates employed: Type of work:

Supervisor name: Phone: Email:

Scholarship Aid from another Source

List any grants or scholarship aid you will be granted from another source:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Do you intend to apply for financial aid at the college or university you will attend? YES☐ NO☐

If yes, please include details:

Recent US Tax Return and Assets/Liabilities

Please include with this application, a **Summary Page** copy only of your most recent US Income Tax Return. Also include a copy of your most recent Assets/Liabilities.