



HARVARD DIVISION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

HARVARD EXTENSION SCHOOL • HARVARD SUMMER SCHOOL

Admissions Office • 51 Brattle Street • Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138-3722 • (617) 998-8111 • admissions@extension.harvard.edu

Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship Application Instructions

Deadline: June 1 for the fall term or October 1 for the spring term.

Overview

The Harvard Extension School Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Scholarship is designed to encourage academically talented community college graduates to pursue the Bachelor of Liberal Arts (ALB) through the undergraduate program at the Harvard Extension School (HES). Our program is ideal if you appreciate the value of a liberal arts degree. We offer a solid foundation for advanced academic work, such as law, medical, or business school or PhD programs. You will have access to many benefits, including a distinguished faculty drawn primarily from Harvard College; more than 500 courses in the evening or online at modest tuition rates (approximately \$1,250 per course); a diverse student body; one of the largest academic libraries in the world; outstanding museums and cultural performances; and ample opportunities to participate in a rich community life. We invite you to challenge yourself intellectually, personally, and professionally.

As you consider our undergraduate program, please keep in mind the following features: HES is Harvard University's continuing education program distinct from Harvard College. The average age of students is 30 and the majority of students study on a part-time basis. **Housing is not available, and students cannot receive the I-20 certificate for the F-1 student visa.**

For more information about HES and the undergraduate program, review the undergraduate website at www.extension.harvard.edu/degrees-programs/undergraduate-degree or call (617) 495-4024 for more information.

Description of Award

Before applying to the undergraduate program, all students must complete three HES pre-admission courses with grades of B or higher. The PTK scholarship pays the tuition for the three admission courses. Of the three courses, one must be *EXPO 25 Academic Writing and Critical Reading*. The other two pre-admission courses can be selected from more than 500 undergraduate course offerings.

EXPO 25 is a limited-enrollment course and requires a placement test, the Test of Critical Reading and Writing Skills, available online. You must take this test by the PTK application deadlines.

Once admitted to the undergraduate program, you can apply for a full range of financial aid, including the Extension School Grant and federal financial aid, such as Pell Grants and Stafford Loans. PTK Scholars typically receive ongoing grant support from Harvard Extension School that covers up to half their tuition expenses each semester, provided they apply for financial aid by the priority deadline and demonstrate financial need.

Eligibility

You are eligible for the scholarship if you are a PTK member who, as a US citizen or eligible non-citizen, can qualify for financial aid and has earned an Associate in Arts (AA) degree with 3.50 or higher cumulative GPA. Awards are based on your scholarship application essay, past academic performance, results of the Test of Critical Reading and Writing Skills, financial need, and an interview (phone or in-person).

Application Process

To apply, submit the form on page three, a one-page essay, academic transcripts from all colleges and/or universities attended, documentation of PTK membership, a completed Harvard Extension School Enrollment Plan for Financial Aid form, and a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The application deadline is June 1 for the fall term or October 1 for the spring term. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The one-page essay should explain why you want to pursue your undergraduate degree at the Harvard Extension School. Consider the following questions when writing your essay:

- What impact will an undergraduate degree in liberal arts have on my life?
- Why is it important for me to complete an undergraduate degree at this point in my life?
- What is the significance of achieving an undergraduate degree at HES?
- If you live outside the Boston area, you need to include a specific plan to fulfill the residency requirement.

Review the checklist on the next page to be sure you have provided all necessary documents and contact the Admissions Office at (617) 998-8111 if you have any questions about the application process.

Continued on next page.

Application Checklist (please review and check all items)

- Complete the Test of Critical Reading and Writing Skills online through the Harvard Extension School website (click login, then Your Account, then follow the New Student? directions).

Applicants must complete the following items online by June 1 for the fall term or October 1 for the spring term:

- Enrollment Plan for Financial Aid (available at the Harvard Extension School website, www.extension.harvard.edu/forms)
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from the US Department of Education (see below)

Applicants must complete and submit the following items by mail by June 1 for the fall term or October 1 for the spring term:

- The Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship application, completed and signed
- A one-page essay indicating why you wish to earn an ALB at the Harvard Extension School
- Official (sealed) academic transcripts from all colleges/universities you have attended
- Documentation of PTK membership

Student Financial Services may request supplementary documentation from you in order to process your application. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

FAFSA

Student Financial Services recommends that students submit their FAFSA to the US Department of Education (www.fafsa.ed.gov) at least two weeks prior to the scholarship deadline (May 15 for the fall term or September 15 for the spring term) to allow time for processing. Students may authorize the release of this form to the Harvard Extension School by using the Federal School Code E00209.

Applicants are encouraged to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool in the online FAFSA to retrieve the required federal tax information. In order to use this feature students will need to have filed their federal tax return electronically at least two weeks prior to completing the FAFSA. If applicants do not, or are unable to, use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, supplementary documentation will likely be required to complete the scholarship application.

Award Process

When applications are complete, the Admissions Office will contact you to schedule a phone interview. You are notified by mail of the PTK Scholarship Committee's decision by July 1 for the fall term or November 1 for the spring term. When awarded the scholarship, you may take one, two, or three courses during the first semester. If three courses are taken, one must be EXPO 25. You must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better to continue receiving scholarship funds. Also, you are required to complete the FAFSA and Extension School financial aid applications each year in order to remain eligible for the award.



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Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship Application

Due June 1 for the fall term or October 1 for the spring term

LEGAL NAME		
Last/Family/Sur name(s)	First/Given name(s)	Middle name(s)

DATE OF BIRTH example: JAN 01 1994								
Month (MMM)			Day (DD)			Year (YYYY)		

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS		
Street		
City	State/Province	Zip/Postal code
E-mail address (Please provide only one e-mail address.)		
Country (if not US)	Telephone number (including area/country code)	Cell phone number (including area/country code)

Please list all colleges or universities you have attended:

Students who fail to list previous college work will be disqualified from scholarship selection and funds will be revoked.

Associate in arts award institution: _____

Associate in arts graduation date: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

PTK membership dates: _____

Yes, I have completed the Harvard Extension School test of critical reading and writing skills.

Please indicate the three Extension School courses for which you plan to use the scholarship:

This is not a registration form. If you are awarded a scholarship, you must register online in the morning of the first day of registration.

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	TERM
EXPO 25	Academic Writing and Critical Reading	

If you plan to take and pay for additional courses, please indicate which ones:

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	TERM

By signing this application, I certify that all information on this application as well as all submitted materials are accurate and complete.

Please note: Students who fail to list previous college work, or misrepresent any information, will be disqualified from scholarship selection and funds will be revoked.

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

PTK Scholarship applications become the property of the Harvard Extension School. No part will be returned under any circumstances.