Police Federal Credit Union of Omaha Robert Sklenar Memorial Scholarships

2026 SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

Police Federal Credit Union of Omaha will award up to \$5,000 in scholarships to student members who plan to continue their education. To be eligible, the students must be:

- 1. Graduating from high school in the Spring of 2026.
- 2. Attending an accredited college, university, vocation, or trade school in the Fall of 2026.
- 3. A primary Police Federal Credit Union of Omaha member for at least 12 months and in good standing. (Student must also have an account in their name. Parent or guardian membership does not qualify a student for the scholarship.)

The Robert Sklenar Memorial Scholarship is awarded yearly by the Police Federal Credit Union - Omaha. Awards are determined based on a competitive written essay submission. This written essay is designed to highlight your academic capabilities, as you move on to the next chapter of your education. The topic and instructions for your essay are highlighted below. Please make sure that you follow all instructions carefully, as you will be graded on content, analysis, and format.

Topic: Credit Union Industry Analysis

Provide a comprehensive overview of the credit union industry. In your overview, address each of the following areas:

- 1. Summarize the primary structures of the credit union industry.
- 2. Highlight the similarities and differences between credit unions and banks.
- 3. Discuss the NCUA and their role.
- 4. Identify two (2) federal regulations that affect credit unions and discuss their impact on operations.
- 5. Point out some of the key challenges that credit unions face.

Instructions:

Content

• Based on the nature of this topic, it is anticipated that a thorough examination will result in approximately 4-6 pages of text, not including your cover page and references.

Format

- All essays must include a cover page and reference page.
- Arial, 12-Point, Double-Spaced
- Citation/Reference Style, APA preferred

Sources

- You must cite a minimum of two (2) scholarly resources in the body of your paper and provide those on a reference page at the end of your paper.
- Only academic sources can be used. Example: Wikipedia is not a reputable source.
- To be deemed reputable, the following should be considered: (1) the name of the author/creator of the page is noted; (2) the author is professionally qualified to write on the topic; (3) it is a professional website and not strictly based on opinion or propaganda; (4) the intended audience is scholarly or professional; (5) the information is objective, factual, impartial, and supported through research or data, and; (6) the information is verifiable through other independent, responsible sources.

• <u>The use of 'Al' is prohibited</u>. All submissions will be analyzed through SafeAssign and Turn It In to determine originality.

Grading

- Total Possible 100 points
- Content and Analysis 80%
- Format and Sources 20%

The completed scholarship application and essays must be received at the credit union's main office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 20, 2026.

Mail: Police Federal Credit Union of Omaha

Attn: Nancy Eisenberger

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Email: nancy@opfcu.com

Winners will be notified by phone, featured on the credit union's website and social media pages, announced in the Blue Family News, and posted at both locations.

Winners will be given scholarship funds upon receiving proof of intent to attend college (acceptance letter, registration, etc.). Scholarship funds will be deposited into the credit union account of the winner(s).