

The O&P Foundation has partnered with the <u>American Board of Certification</u> for Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics (ABC) to provide scholarships to Orthotic and Prosthetic (O&P) technician students who are currently enrolled at O&P technician education institutions that are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). ABC O&P Technician Diversity Scholarships include a \$5,000 cash award\*. Up to 2 ABC O&P Technician Student Scholarships may be given annually. \*All scholarships are considered taxable income, recipients will receive a 1099 IRS Form for the award tax year

## **Eligibility Requirements**

Applicants must be enrolled as a full-time student in a CAAHEP-accredited O&P technician program <u>and</u> meet all the following criteria:

- Completed at least one semester or two quarters of a CAAHEPaccredited O&P technician program
- Applicant must be a member of a racial or ethnic population (i.e., Asian American, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Native American or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander) that is underrepresented in O&P
- Applicant must be a US citizen or legal permanent resident

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of educators and clinical experts appointed by The O&P Foundation's <u>Education Committee</u>. Eligible students may apply for both the O&P Technician Student and O&P Technician Diversity Scholarships. However, students are only eligible to receive one ABC Scholarship (O&P Technician Student Scholarship or Scholarship for O&P Technician Diversity). Students who apply for both scholarships will be asked to indicate their preference if they are selected to receive both scholarships.

# To be considered for the award, applicants must submit the following:

Create an account in the O&P Foundation Application Portal, then select the "ABC O&P Technician Diversity Scholarships" program application and follow portal instructions.

- 1. Author a (500 word or less) personal statement
  - Applicant should describe how their presence in the profession will impact O&P care

2. **Obtain** an official or unofficial transcript (that includes the current academic semester) from your institution

- Official transcripts are not required; however, unofficial transcripts must be signed by the Program Director or Faculty Advisor.
- Transcript must include cumulative O&P Technician Program GPA.

3. **Obtain** two letters of recommendation: 1) from a faculty member of the program in which enrolled and 2) from a non-faculty individual such as an employer, volunteer work supervisor, mentor, coach, or religious leader.

• The letter of recommendation should indicate why applicant is a strong candidate for an ABC Technician Diversity Scholarship.

## 4. Prepare resume

• Resume should include information regarding education, work experience, volunteer activities, honors, and awards.

5. **Upload and submit** application materials to The O&P Foundation's application portal.

#### **Submission**

Applicants are responsible for ensuring all materials are received by The O&P Foundation by the due dates posted deadline. Application materials must be received by 5:00 pm Central Time by the posted deadline.

## Applications open in Spring 2025.

## Questions

If there are any questions about the ABC O&P Technician Diversity Scholarship, contact <u>info@oandpfoundation.org</u> or the Education Committee directly at <u>education@oandpfoundation.org</u>.