

## **Pedorthic Footwear Foundation Scholarships for Pedorthic Education**

Financial assistance for education is available to students interested in a career in pedorthics. Scholarships from the Pedorthic Footwear Foundation (PFF) can be used to cover tuition costs at courses that the Board for Certification in Pedorthics (BCP) recognizes as prerequisites to sit for the BCP exam.

### **Scholarships usually available through the PFF include:**

- The Aristotle Mirones Scholarship, established in memory of the founder of ARIMED Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics
- The Eneslow Pedorthic Institute Scholarship (Basic Course).
- The Oklahoma State University at Okmulgee Scholarship (Fundamentals Course only), available to students who are committed to pursuing the Fundamentals Course at OSU
- The Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine Scholarship, available to students committed to pursuing pedorthic education at Rosalind Franklin University
- The Xtra Depth University Scholarship providing full tuition for the Basic Course sponsored by P.W. Minor & Son, Inc.
- The Sidney M. Pols Scholarship, created by P.W. Minor & Son
- The Dawn Janisse Scholarship

### **Scholarship eligibility requirements are:**

1. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have at least a high school diploma or its equivalent.
2. Applicants must have prior experience related to footwear for foot care.
3. Applicants must describe the educational plan they are following or intend to follow, including the school(s), the approximate timetable, and the approximate date on which they plan to take the pedorthic certification exam. (NOTE: Applicants need not be enrolled in a course at the time they apply.)
4. Applicants are expected to sit for the certification exam within two (2) years of completing course work supported by the Foundation scholarship.
5. Applicants must agree in advance that, if selected to receive a scholarship, they will serve as advisors to the Foundation Scholarship Committee for two years immediately after receipt of a scholarship. Such service shall not exceed 16 hours of consultation, generally by telephone or e-mail, over the course of those years.
6. Applicants must be prepared to describe their preferred area of concentration in pedorthics, and tell why it is their preference. Examples of "preferred area: area:
  - patients with arthritis, athletic/sports injury, diabetes, or other category
  - geriatric or pediatric patients
  - patients whose foot problems are related more to repetitive stress than to medical need
  - patients whose jobs place undue stresses on their feet
  - patients experiencing severe foot trauma due to mechanical/vehicular injury

- general-practice pedorthic patients
  - some other area of particular interest
7. In addition to the application form, applicants must submit recommendations from three distinctly different individuals who are not related to the applicant. Letters of recommendation should address the following points:
- applicant's commitment to helping others
  - applicant's job performance
  - applicant's acceptance of responsibility and follow-through
  - applicant's interest in achieving growth through education, mentoring or other means
  - If the recommender has observed the applicant at work: the applicant's work efficiency, ability to maintain perspective, ability to function in unusual or difficult circumstances, and ability to work with co-workers
  - Applicant's aptitude for pedorthic work – which involves, but is not limited to, manual dexterity; interpersonal communication; analytical problem solving; comprehending medical terminology, footwear terminology, and properties of various adhesives, leathers and other footwear components; visually assessing symmetry; hand-eye coordination; using electronic and mechanical evaluation devices and a variety of other tools; and documentation; and,
  - any other matters that seem relevant.

NOTE: If your recommenders prefer, they can send their letters directly to the Foundation (see address on Application Form). Envelopes must include your last name in the lower left corner.

**Scholarship Amounts and Payments.** Amounts of Foundation scholarships are set annually by the Foundation's Board of Directors, depending on the number of scholarships to be made available. Historically, amounts awarded have varied between \$500 and \$2,500, and are paid directly to the school. Scholarships are not awarded retroactively; that is, they may pay for courses a student is taking or will take, but not for courses that have been completed when the application is received.

**Scholarship Deadlines.** Scholarship applications must be received by January 15 each year. Recipients will be announced in April or earlier. (The Foundation reserves the right to decline to award a scholarship. If the Foundation declines in any given year, it may choose to award additional scholarships in a subsequent year.) A scholarship must be used within 12 months of being awarded, unless special arrangements are made otherwise.

Selection of scholarship recipients will be made by the Pedorthic Footwear Foundation Board or its appointed representatives. Decisions are final, and may not be appealed. Selection criteria include, but are not limited to:

- evidence of commitment to a career in pedorthics
- indication of how financial aid would affect the applicant's ability to pursue a career in pedorthics
- applicant's preferred pedorthic interest area. (NOTE: There is no "right" or "wrong" answer. This requirement simply increases the Foundation's understanding of the applicant.)
- the applicant's stated intentions regarding "giving back" to the profession;

- indication of ability to be an effective C. Ped. (NOTE: Previous activities, such as participating in health fairs, taking special courses, volunteer or civic activities or other efforts or undertakings may be relevant here).

If a relative or employee of a member of the Foundation's Board applies for a scholarship, that Board member will not participate in scholarship decisions.

**APPLICATION FORM:** Pedorthic Footwear Foundation Scholarship in Pedorthics.  
Note: This form has four (4) sections. Each section must be completed in full.

**SECTION I. General Information.**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer during Footwear/Foot care Experience:

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact/Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Verification of your footwear- or foot care-related experience is required.** Please ask your employer/former employer to provide a signed letter on his/her letterhead confirming length of your employment and a brief description of your duties/responsibilities. If your experience is through self-employment, please provide a copy of your state or federal tax I.D. Number.

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II. Education.** List below the schools that you have attended, the general course types you studied or degree(s) you received, and the year you completed the program(s). Give most recent educational information first. Use additional sheet(s) if necessary.

School	Degree/Course Type	Year
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**SECTION III. Personal.** Please respond to the questions below in as full a manner as possible without exceeding 500 words per question. Number your responses to correspond

with the question. Use additional sheet(s) as needed. Type or print clearly. Copies of your responses will be made for each Scholarship Application reviewer.

1. Describe your footwear- or foot care-related experience. Include type of company you worked for, job(s) you performed, number of years you spent on each job, any increases in responsibility that you may have experienced, and how you became interested in pedorthics.
  2. Describe your preferred area of interest in pedorthic practice.
  3. Describe how you plan to pursue a career in pedorthics (e.g., 1. in a private practice setting, in a clinic or hospital, or as part of a health care team practice; 2. as an employee, employer, researcher, teacher, combination).
  4. Discuss how financial assistance would affect your ability to pursue certification in pedorthics.
- 5(a). List any special achievements or honors that you've received or activities that you've undertaken which you believe are relevant to this application.
- 5(b). *If you wish to be considered for a Sidney Pols Memorial Scholarship, please describe an activity you have performed that you believe to have included an aspect of service to community.*
6. Please imagine a future in which you have been successfully practicing pedorthics for at least 10 years. You are professionally debt-free, supporting yourself and your family, and respected by both patients and prescribers. In what way would you wish to "give back" to the field that is your livelihood?

**SECTION IV. Pedorthic Education Plans.** Please outline the pedorthic education plan you expect to follow. Include the school(s) you plan to attend, the approximate month and year you plan to attend school(s), and the approximate month and year you plan to take the pedorthic certification exam. **OPTIONAL:** If you are also planning to gain additional hands-on experience with a C. Ped. mentor, please give the C. Ped.'s name and facility address, the approximate length of time you plan to work there, and the approximate date(s) during which your additional hands-on experience will take place.

**Return the Complete Application** – which includes **(1)** this form, **(2)** your answers to the essay questions, **(3)** confirmation of your current or former employer of your footwear/foot care-industry work experience, and **(4)** letters of recommendation from three distinctly different people who are not related to you – by January 15 to:

Scholarship Review Committee  
Pedorthic Footwear Foundation  
7150 Columbia Gateway Dr., Ste. G  
Columbia, MD 21046-1151

Notifications will be sent in late March. Thank you for your interest in pedorthics.