

Polish American Congress of Arizona

2828 West Country Gables Drive

Phoenix, Arizona 85053

www.pacarizona.org



September 5, 2023

Dear Members,

The Polish American Congress of Arizona is pleased to announce its annual scholarship for eligible candidates. As an organization which strives to promote civic, cultural, and educational programs designed to increase Polish-American involvement and accomplishments in our community, we take pride in awarding scholarships to exemplary students every year.

As of September 5, 2023, we are now accepting scholarship applications for the 2023/2024 academic year. All eligible students are strongly encouraged to apply.

Attached you will find the application, eligibility requirements, and additional details for the scholarship. These documents can also be found on our website:

<https://www.pacarizona.org/scholarship>

The deadline to apply is *strictly* October 15, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Lasek". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Kevin Lasek
Director of Language and Education Programs
Polish American Congress of Arizona
E-mail: info@pacarizona.org



Polish American Congress of Arizona Scholarship

Eligibility

To be eligible for scholarship consideration, you must:

- Yourself be, or have at least one parent who is, of Polish descent
- Have been an active member of PAC for at least one year
- Be a full-time student with a grade point average (GPA) of:
 - 3.5 or above if you are in an undergraduate or trade school program
 - 2.5 or above if you are in a graduate program

Application Requirements

Applications must be submitted with **all** required documents **at the time of submission**. You must enclose all the following:

- A fully completed scholarship application form
- Proof of enrollment – this can be in the form of a class schedule, academic commitment letter, or admittance letter
- A copy of your most recent transcript (it can be an unofficial copy)
- A signed letter of recommendation **which is dated no more than six months before the application deadline** and provides contact information of the referee. Applications with a letter of recommendation dated more than six months before the deadline will be disqualified
- An essay on a chosen topic (prompts provided below)
- An addendum (optional)

Essay Requirements

Your essay must:

- Be in PDF format, if sending in electronically
- Be single-sided, stapled if sending in by mail
- Have a cover letter including your name and prompt topic (provided below)
- Be 2-4 pages in length, double spaced, in Times New Roman font
- Explicitly respond to the chosen prompt (provided below)

Polish American Congress of Arizona

2828 West Country Gables Drive

Phoenix, Arizona 85053

www.pacarizona.org



Essay Prompts

Respond to one of the following prompts:

1. 2023 marks the 550th anniversary of the birth of Nicholas Copernicus, Poland's famed astronomer who "stopped the Sun and moved the Earth". If your prospective field of study is in S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), briefly explore the life and work of a Polish scientist (historical or contemporary) from whom you draw inspiration and then discuss how their contributions have influenced your academic interests and aspirations
2. If your intended field of study is aligned with the humanities (i.e., *not* S.T.E.M.), choose a prominent (historical or contemporary) Polish individual, event, cultural element, or personal experience related to Poland which is significant to you and discuss how its importance influences your academic prospects. Be sure to provide a brief summary of your chosen topic.
3. Describe how you see yourself in 5 or 10 years. What are your goals that you hope to achieve by then? How do you see yourself serving the Polish community in that timeframe? Provide some prospective examples (*i.e.*, do not simply write about being proud to have Polish heritage—give details!)
4. Some applicants experience personal hardships or unique experiences which they believe are significant factors to their sense of self. If you think this may be you, provide some details and discuss how your Polish background has positively influenced those journeys.

Submission Guidelines

If you are submitting your application electronically, email all documents in the required (PDF) format to:

info@pacarizona.org.

If you are submitting your application by mail, send all documents in the required format to:

Polish American Congress of Arizona
2828 West Country Gables Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85053

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS IS **OCTOBER 15, 2023**
THIS IS A STRICT DEADLINE AND NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED
AFTER **OCTOBER 15, 2023**

MAILED-IN APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THEIR POSTMARK DATE