



Scholarship Rules & Regulations

PURPOSE

To provide financial assistance for the education or training of future and current employees of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota equipment dealerships in order to create a larger pool of qualified, committed, long-term employees for those dealers.

ELIGIBILITY

Pioneer EDA's Scholarship Program is available to all potential employees and employees (students) of equipment dealerships in Minnesota, North Dakota, or South Dakota, subject to the following conditions:

1. The student must be enrolled and accepted in a higher education curriculum approved by the dealer as training applicable to the dealership's needs and must be enrolled full-time in the approved course of study.
2. The dealer must be willing to provide scholarship funds in the amount of \$500 and must be a current member of the Pioneer Equipment Dealers Association (Pioneer EDA). Furthermore, each Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota retail location of a multi-store, "common ownership" dealer group must be a current member of Pioneer EDA.
3. During the school year the student must maintain an average cumulative GPA of at least 2.5.

PROCESS

Student without a dealer sponsor:

1. Pioneer EDA Scholarship Application
 - a. The student must complete the student portion of the electronic application, which must include:
 - i. A cover letter (*4 paragraphs max*) indicating the reason why they have chosen to pursue their specified degree.
 - ii. Verification of college enrollment or high school transcripts if not yet enrolled (*first-year college students*).
 - iii. Submission of the current transcripts including grades from the most recent completed semester (*second and subsequent-year college students*).
 - iv. The student must then contact Pioneer EDA and request assistance with the Dealer Portion of the application.
2. If the application is approved, Pioneer EDA will assist the student in their efforts to secure a dealer sponsor.
3. If a dealer elects to sponsor the student, the dealer must complete the dealer portion of the application and submit the completed application to Pioneer EDA.
4. Pioneer EDA will then send the dealer a \$500 invoice for their portion of the scholarship award. The dealer must submit a \$500 check to Pioneer EDA, which must be made payable to the school that the student will be attending.
5. Pioneer EDA will then submit the dealer's portion and \$250 (\$750 total) of the scholarship award directly to the school, after which the dealer's \$500 payment will be non-refundable. These funds will be applied directly to the student's first semester tuition.

6. After the student has submitted his or her first semester transcripts (with all grades entered) and they meet the satisfactory grade requirement, Pioneer EDA will submit another payment of \$750 directly to the school. These funds will be applied directly to the student's second semester tuition.

Student with a dealer sponsor:

1. Pioneer EDA Scholarship Application
 - a. The student must complete the student portion of the electronic application, which must include:
 - i. Verification of college enrollment or high school transcripts if not yet enrolled (*first-year college students*).
 - ii. Most current transcripts (*second and subsequent-year college students*).
 - b. The dealer must complete the dealer portion of the electronic application.
 - c. The dealer must submit the completed application to Pioneer EDA, including the student's enrollment verification.
2. If the application is approved, Pioneer EDA will mail the dealer a \$500 invoice for their portion of the scholarship award.
3. The dealer must submit a \$500 check to Pioneer EDA, which must be made payable to the school that the student will be attending.
4. Pioneer EDA will then submit the dealer's portion and \$250 (\$750 total) of the scholarship award directly to the school, after which the dealer's \$500 payment will be non-refundable. These funds will be applied directly to the student's first semester tuition.
5. After the student has submitted his or her first semester transcripts (with all grades entered) and they meet the satisfactory grade requirement, Pioneer EDA will submit another payment of \$750 directly to the school. These funds will be applied directly to the student's second semester tuition.

AWARDS

Scholarship awards are currently \$1,500 per recipient, per school year; Pioneer EDA will contribute \$1,000, provided the dealer contributes \$500. The intent of this scholarship is to provide dealer training funds and is not to be offered for other general purposes.

Applications may be made by completing Pioneer EDA's electronic application. If applications exceed available funds, scholarship awards will be made by random drawing.

Scholarships will be awarded to eligible applicants who are sponsored by Minnesota, North Dakota, or South Dakota dealer members (see Eligibility). Dealer groups headquartered in any one of these states may sponsor up to two students for non-member retail locations that reside outside of these three states (not two scholarships for EACH non-member, out-of-state location).

Scholarship awards are renewable for the second and subsequent years of the student's educational program, provided the student remains eligible and the dealer approves the renewal. Students must submit a new application for all scholarship renewals (see Process). Scholarships may be renewed once for students pursuing an associate's degree or three times for students pursuing a bachelor's degree.

Scholarship funds will be submitted to the school and applied directly to the student's tuition. Dealer contributions must be received by Pioneer EDA before the full award will be applied to the student's tuition. Scholarship funds will be divided equally among the semesters or quarters to be attended during a given school year. Any breach of enrollment in the eligibility requirements of this program or other unsatisfactory performance in the course of the student's studies will result in the immediate cessation of aid and any remaining scholarship funds will be forfeited by the student.