



Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship

The Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship was created to reward high school seniors for their involvement in the Freedom Optimist Soccer Program, involvement in the community and their academic achievement. Freedom Optimist Soccer will award up to ten scholarships between \$250 and \$2,000 each year to graduating high school seniors who meet the requirements below.

Freedom Optimist Soccer urges all seniors who played in our program, who are planning to further their education, and who meet the criteria for this scholarship to apply by **May 1, 2026**. Applications are available in the Guidance Office at Century and Liberty High Schools, and on the Freedom Optimist Soccer web page www.freedomoptsoccer.com in the Handouts section.

Every eligible applicant will be given the utmost consideration. All decisions made by the Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship Committee shall be final.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be a 2026 graduating senior.
- All applicants must have played in our program for one or more years in high school.
- Applicants must be planning to attend a two-year or four-year college, technical, or vocational school in the fall of 2026, following high school graduation. The award will be paid directly to the recipient's school.

Awards

- Applicants who played three or more of their high school years in our program are eligible for a scholarship award up to \$2000, depending on the number of applicants. Up to six scholarships will be awarded in this category. One award will be designated for a Century High School student, one award for a Liberty High School student, and four awards for students from any high school.
- Applicants who played one or two years in high school are eligible for a scholarship award of \$250. Up to four scholarships will be awarded in this category.

Selection Criteria

The Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship Committee will consider the following:

- The applicant's participation in Freedom Optimist Soccer.
- The applicant's response to the Freedom Optimist Soccer essay.
- Volunteer service hours earned, in total and also through the Freedom Optimist Soccer program.
- A letter of recommendation from a Freedom Optimist Soccer adult volunteer.
- The academic performance of the applicant.

Letter of Recommendation

Submit a signed letter of recommendation from a current or past Freedom Optimist Soccer volunteer other than a parent/guardian.

Short Essay

In 500 words or less, tell us about your experience in the Freedom Optimist Soccer program and how you feel it helped you prepare for your educational goals as well as life as a young adult. Also share your thoughts on what you would do to improve our program.

The following must be received by May 1 as one packet. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- Completed Application
- Signed Letter of Recommendation from a Freedom Optimist Soccer volunteer other than a parent/guardian.
- Short Essay

Please type your response on a separate sheet of paper.

Any other relevant information to help the committee evaluate your application is recommended. Use of additional sheets of paper is encouraged.

Mail to:

Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship Committee
PO Box 53
Sykesville, MD 21784

Or Email to:

scholarships@freedomoptsoccer.com

Scholarship winners will be announced at the Century and Liberty High School Awards Ceremonies. All other winners will be contacted via US Mail or email.

Thank you for applying for the Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship and for being part of our program. We hope you have enjoyed your time playing with us!

Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship Committee

Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship Application

Information provided in this application will be used confidentially by the Freedom Optimist Soccer Scholarship Committee only. Falsifying information will justify the committee in withdrawing the applicant from consideration.

Please print or type clearly. *A separately typed response can be submitted to complete questions.*

Date of Application: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(Month/Day/Year)

Name(s) of Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Signature of Applicant: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

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Total years played for FOS: _____ High school years played: _____

Coaches' Names (up to 3, please indicate grade):

Name of Graduating High School: _____

GPA as of April 2026 or Date of Application: Weighted _____ Unweighted _____

Class Rank: _____ out of _____

Community Service Hours Completed (as of Date of Application): _____

Community Service Hours Completed through Freedom Optimist Soccer to date: _____

What are your current interests? _____

Intended College Major: _____

What are your educational or career goals post-high school?

College or institution you will be attending in the fall: _____

(If decision has not been made, please list the colleges or institutions where you have applied.)

Please provide a description of volunteer activities you wish to note. Include a description of the activity, the organization for which you volunteered, and the dates you volunteered (*use additional sheets of paper if needed*).
