

2026 Jordan Leigh Thomas Leadership and Innovation Scholarship Application Information



Ivy Educational and Service Foundation and
Upsilon Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated ®

Dear Scholarship Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our scholarship opportunity. The Ivy Educational & Service Foundation, in partnership with the Upsilon Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated ®, is honored to offer the Jordan Leigh Thomas Leadership and Innovation Scholarship. This scholarship is designed to support graduating high school seniors from the Kansas City metropolitan area who are experiencing financial need and who demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in both education and community service.

To be considered for this financial need-based scholarship, applicants must be high school seniors in the Kansas City metropolitan area who plan to enroll in a four-year college, university, or community college in the fall semester immediately following graduation. Candidates should also have a proven track record of exceptional leadership and innovation throughout high school. Recipients will be selected based on demonstrated financial need, outstanding leadership, and evidence of innovation, as shown through the application materials and a required essay describing the financial challenges that make this scholarship essential.

Application Requirements

To apply for the Jordan Leigh Thomas Leadership and Innovation Scholarship, please submit a complete application packet via email to ivyedandservicefoundation@gmail.com no later than 11:59 PM on Sunday, March 15, 2026. Your application packet must include the following:

- A complete application form
- An official school transcript, which must be emailed directly by your school counselor to ivyedandservicefoundation@gmail.com
- A typed essay answering the two designated personal essay questions
- A copy of your college acceptance letter
- Two letters of recommendation, with at least one from a school official. If possible, these letters should address your leadership, innovation, and financial needs
- A current photo, submitted electronically via email to ivyedandservicefoundation@gmail.com

Selection and Notification

Applicants will be notified of the scholarship committee's decision in March 2026. Award recipients and their families will be invited to attend a reception on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Recipients—or a family representative—must attend this reception to receive their award. Our scholarship committee will work closely with winners to ensure the timely and proper delivery of their awards.

Contact Information

We look forward to reviewing your application materials. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at ivyedandservicefoundation@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

J. Harvey Jordan

Janelle Harvey Jordan
Foundation President

Lenora Ivy

Lenora Ivy
Foundation Director-at-Large

Scholarship Application

Please ensure that your application, along with all required supporting documentation, is submitted via email by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2026. Applications received after this date will **not** be considered.

Applicant Information

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Cell Phone Number

Email Address

Parent/Guardian Names and Cell Phone Numbers

1. Financial Need Statement:

- a. Provide a brief overview of your financial circumstances, including family income.
- b. Outline the reasons you require financial assistance (e.g., inability to cover full tuition, books, or housing costs).
- c. List any additional financial support, scholarships, or grants you have received or expect to receive to offset college-related expenses.

2. Academic and Extracurricular Achievements:

- a. GPA
- b. Relevant coursework
- c. Leadership roles inside and outside of school
- d. Academic interests
- e. Volunteer activities
- f. Awards, honors, or recognitions

3. Career Goals and Aspirations:

- a. Indicate your intended field of study and your motivation for selecting it.
- b. Explain how receiving this scholarship will contribute to your career objectives.
- c. Describe the long-term impact you wish to make in your community or chosen profession.

4. Personal Essays (250-500 words each):

- a. Share your personal story, highlighting a significant challenge you have overcome or a notable success, emphasizing your leadership style, innovative approaches, and sources of motivation.
- b. Relate your need for financial assistance to your future ambitions as a leader.

5. Letters of Recommendation (2):

Submit two recommendation letters (including at least one from a school official) addressing your leadership qualities, innovation, and financial need.

Scholarship recipients and their families will be invited to attend an in-person awards reception on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Attendance by the winner or a designated family representative is required to receive the award and fund disbursement information.

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

Email your complete application, two recommendation letters, official transcript (submitted by your school counselor), essays (two), college acceptance letter, and current photo no later than 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2026, to the **Foundation Committee** at ivyedandservicefoundation@gmail.com. Thank you, and we wish you the best of luck in your academic endeavors!