P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education, established in 1973, is a grant program providing financial assistance to women whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families. They must demonstrate a need for financial assistance with their educational expenses in order to improve or gain skills needed for employment.

GRANT

The money is intended as a grant-in-aid for education related expenses such as tuition, books, supplies, transportation and/or childcare necessary to reach the applicant’s educational goal. The grant is not to be used for living expenses or to repay educational loans. Grants will not be awarded to those needing prerequisite courses or choosing immediate continuation of their education beyond the current program.

The maximum grant is $3,000. Lesser amounts may be awarded based on funds available in the current year’s grant budget and applicants’ individual needs. Applicants are eligible to receive only one PCE grant.

When a grant is approved, the check is mailed to the sponsoring chapter to be presented personally to the recipient.

ELIGIBILITY

A WOMAN IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE P.E.O. PROGRAM FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDED SHE:

- Is sponsored by a P.E.O. chapter
- Is a citizen of the United States or Canada
- Is studying in the United States or Canada
- Has had at least 24 consecutive months as a non-student sometime in her adult life
- Is within 24 consecutive months of completing her educational program
- Is not enrolled in a doctoral degree program
- Is enrolled in an educational program leading to employment or job advancement

Grants may be awarded for academic or technical courses.
APPLICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

When a local chapter identifies a prospective applicant, the chapter’s P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education chairman will arrange an interview to determine eligibility. Chapter approval is granted by a majority voice vote at a regular or special meeting.

PCE applications and recommendations may only be submitted electronically. The instructions for the online recommendation are posted on the PCE portion of the P.E.O. International website.

Recommendations will be considered no more than four months prior to beginning of the term for which the grant is requested. All forms must be submitted electronically ten weeks prior to the beginning of the term for which the grant is requested. Recommendations submitted less than ten weeks prior to the beginning of the term for which the grant is requested will not be accepted. The application may be resubmitted for a subsequent term if eligible.

The Board of Trustees of the P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education will evaluate applications on a nondiscriminatory basis without consideration of race, national origin, religious affiliation or disability, with the primary consideration being the applicant’s demonstrated overall need for assistance.

For additional information, contact:

P.E.O. Executive Office
3700 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312.2899

Phone: 515.255.3153
Fax: 515.255.3820

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Women helping women reach for the stars