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 to improve their marketable skills for employment.

GRANT

The money is intended as a grant-in-aid for expenses such as tuition, books and education related expenses, transportation, 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 or to cover the cost of prerequisite courses.

The maximum grant is $3,000. Lesser amounts may be awarded according to individual needs and available funds. Regardless of the amount awarded, the grant is for one time only.

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 goal
- Is not enrolled in a doctoral degree program, e.g., educational, law, medical or clinical
- Is enrolled in an educational program leading to employment or job advancement

Grants may be awarded for academic or technical courses.
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 major voice vote at a regular or special meeting.

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

The following actions are necessary to successfully complete and submit an application:

- View the PCE application online tutorials
- Set up the local chapter PCE portal account which allows access to the necessary forms
- Complete all steps outlined in the tutorials

Applications 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. Applications submitted less than ten weeks prior to the beginning of the term for which the grant is requested will not be accepted but may be resubmitted for a subsequent term.

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