

The P.E.O. Sisterhood is a philanthropic educational organization where our mission is to motivate, educate and celebrate women.



**About the P.E.O. Foundation** The P.E.O. Foundation was established on October 4, 1961, to encourage tax-exempt gifts and bequests from individuals in order to benefit the growth of P.E.O.'s charitable and educational projects. From humble beginnings of an initial \$2,000 donation in 1961, the P.E.O. Foundation has grown to more than \$155 million in assets from a combination of generous donations, gifts and bequests, and effective investing.

**Supporting P.E.O. International Projects through the P.E.O. Foundation** P.E.O. International is dedicated to providing educational opportunities for women through six philanthropies, known as the P.E.O. International projects. These projects offer financial assistance in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, and awards, as well as direct support for Cottey College.

## P.E.O. International Projects



### P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund (ELF)

A revolving loan fund providing low-interest loans to qualified women to assist with educational expenses.



### P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship (IPS)

A need-based scholarship for international women pursuing graduate study in the U.S. or Canada.



### P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE)

A grant for women returning to school after an interruption in their education.



### P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA)

A merit-based scholarship for women pursuing doctoral-level degrees.



### P.E.O. STAR Scholarship

A scholarship recognizing exceptional high school senior women for post-secondary education.



### Cottey College

A fully accredited, independent women's college owned and supported by P.E.O.

**The Role of the P.E.O. Foundation** The P.E.O. Foundation serves as a vehicle for individuals and P.E.O. chapters to support the mission of P.E.O. through one-time gifts or through permanent funds to provide a long-term impact through invested contributions.



**Investment Strategy** The P.E.O. Foundation invests assets on a pooled basis to ensure long-term growth and sustainability. Each fund benefits from shared earnings, and a portion is retained to preserve and grow the principal. The P.E.O. Foundation follows a spending policy designed to balance support for the P.E.O. mission with responsible fund management. For more details on the investment strategy, the P.E.O. Foundation's investment policy is available upon request.

## Ways to Give

- ★ **Establish a Named Fund** – Donors can create a fund within the P.E.O. Foundation, ensuring ongoing support for P.E.O. projects or scholarships for women.
- ★ **Contribute to an Existing Fund** – Donations to funds within the P.E.O. Foundation increase the amounts available for distribution according to each fund's designated purpose.
- ★ **Make an Undesignated Gift** – Gifts for the overall mission of P.E.O. can be made to the P.E.O. Foundation. These undesignated gifts are accumulated and distributed annually by the P.E.O. Foundation trustees to the P.E.O. projects based on need.

## Why Give Through the Foundation?

- ★ **Targeted Impact** – Contributions can be designated to support specific P.E.O. projects or scholarship funds.
- ★ **Tax Deductibility** – As a 501(c)(3) organization, donations made to the P.E.O. Foundation qualify for a U.S. tax-deduction.
- ★ **Financial Stewardship** – Funds are professionally managed to ensure stability and growth.
- ★ **Low Administrative Costs** – P.E.O. Foundation administrative expense are allocated on a pro rata basis to all funds managed. Historically, this has averaged less than 1% of the average fund balance.

Through the P.E.O. Foundation, members and friends can make a meaningful impact on women's education, ensuring P.E.O.'s mission continues for generations to come.

## Additional Questions?

Contact us by phone at:  
**515-255-3153**

Contact us by email at:  
**fdn@peodsm.org**

