

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 09

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILPERSON EVANS-WARREN

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE
OAKWOOD SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS COMMITTEE AND
PRESCRIBING RULES THEREFOR**

WHEREAS, Council has determined that it is in the interest of the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the Village to provide financial assistance to encourage youthful residents of the Village to pursue educational opportunities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a Committee to be known as the Oakwood Scholarship Awards Committee consisting of five (5) members to be selected by majority vote of Council. One member shall be appointed from each Ward of the Village and shall be a bona fide resident from such Ward. The Committee shall be governed in accordance with the rules established therefor, as the same may be amended by Village Council from time to time, a copy of which is attached hereto, expressly made a part hereof by reference and marked Exhibit "A".

SECTION 2. The funds necessary to award the scholarships described in said Exhibit "A" as well as the compensation operating expenses of the Committee be and hereby are appropriated.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Village, the reason for the emergency being that the same relates to the urgent need to provide assistance to Village residents seeking higher education therefore, provided it receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

2/24/26

Eloise Hardin
Eloise Hardin, President of Council

Evan Garrett
Evan Garrett, Assistant Clerk of Council

Presented to the
Mayor

2/26/26

Approved: _____

Erica L. Nikolic
Mayor, Erica Nikolic

I, Evan Garrett, Assistant Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2026 - 09 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the 24th day of February, 2026.

[Signature]
Evan Garrett, Assistant Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Evan Garrett, Assistant Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2026 - 09 was duly posted on the 24th day of FEBRUARY, 2026, and will remain posted for a period of fifteen (15) days thereafter in the Council Chambers in the locations and manner provided in the Village Charter.

[Signature]
Evan Garrett, Assistant Clerk of Council
Evan Garrett

DATED: 3-19-2026

EXHIBIT A

RULES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Council, by majority vote, shall appoint five (5) individuals, one from each Ward of the Village, and not holding any other municipal office or appointment, to serve on the Scholarship Awards Committee. This Appointment shall occur no later than May 1 of each year. An individual selected for the Committee shall serve a term of one (1) year from the date of appointment and all terms shall end on the April 30th of the year following said appointment. Unexpired terms shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.
2. To qualify as a member of the Committee the person must be an Oakwood resident and have continuously resided in Ward from which the appointment is being made for at least two years immediately preceding their appointment.
3. Members of the Committee shall receive the same compensation as members of the Planning Commission.
4. The Committee shall convene within ten (10) days of its creation for the purpose of organizing and selecting a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Recording Secretary. These officers shall serve until their successors are duly elected or upon the end of their term, whichever event occurs first.
5. An agenda shall be prepared in advance of each meeting held by the Committee. Notice of the time, date and location all meetings and the agenda of the Committee shall be posted and distributed in the same fashion as notices relating to meetings of other Boards and Commissions of the Village and shall further shall be given to the Mayor and each member of Village Council. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public at all times. Detailed minutes of each meeting shall be promptly prepared and distributed to each member of the Committee and to the Mayor and each Member of Village Council.
6. Proposed rules for awarding the scholarships shall be promulgated by the Committee and approved by Village Council. The rules shall include the following qualifications for receipt of a scholarship:
 - *Proof of Oakwood Village residency and duration of residency
 - *Bedford High School senior or private or home-schooled Oakwood resident eligible to graduate at the end of the current school year
 - * Submission of a completed, signed, and verified scholarship application.
 - * Completion of a personal interview with the Scholarship Committee.

The rules shall further provide that the applicants will be rated on criteria to include the following:

- *Completion of application
- *Extracurricular activities, Community Service, Awards
- *Grade Point Average
- *Written essay which the applicant may be asked to read orally to the Committee
- *Interview in-person with the Scholarship Committee

7. No scholarship shall be awarded to any individual who is a member of a Committee Member's immediate family. Scholarships shall be in the amount of \$2,000.00 per student. Scholarships may only be awarded for the payment of tuition for full-time attendance consisting of 12 semester hours or more at accredited colleges, universities or skilled trade schools and shall be paid in two increments of \$1,000.00 each. The first payment of \$1,000.00 shall be made upon receipt of proof acceptable to the Committee of the student's enrollment and class schedule at a qualifying institution of learning. The second payment shall be made upon receipt of proof acceptable to the Committee of the student's continued enrollment and class schedule after the last day classes can be dropped for the applicable academic term. Copies of all substantiating records shall be kept by the Committee with copies being provided to the Finance Director of the Village of Oakwood. In the event that an individual who has received a tuition scholarship from the Committee, fails to attend or drops out of school, such student shall reimburse the Committee any refund of tuition received by the student.

8. The Committee shall perform such other duties and be further regulated as Village Council may, from time to time, prescribe.