



# Vasa Order of America

Golden Valley Lodge No. 616

Instituted December 8, 1946

## 2026 Scholarship Application

Please read the Scholarship Criteria document approved on April 9, 2026, before completing the application.

<b>Applicant Name</b>	<i>Last</i> _____ <i>First</i> _____ <i>MI</i> _____					
Date of Membership (Prior to 11/1/2025)				Birth Date		
Email Address						
Phone	<i>Home</i> _____			<i>Cell</i> _____		
Mailing Address						
Highest level of school completed				Date last attended		
Institution attending <b>2026-2027</b>						
Academic Status <b>2026-2027</b>	Freshman <input type="checkbox"/>	Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/>	Junior <input type="checkbox"/>	Senior <input type="checkbox"/>	Vocational <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____
Major				Expected Certificate or Degree		
Career Objective						
Citizenship (information required for IRS tax status)	US Citizen <input type="checkbox"/>		Resident Alien <input type="checkbox"/>		Nonresident Alien <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>To qualify for a scholarship the following items need to be attached to this application:</b>						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript from most recent educational establishment				GPA: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Essay on the topic: <i>How will you participate in GV Lodge after the scholarships?</i>					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter of acceptance or proof of enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter of recommendation from a current GV Lodge board member					
<input type="checkbox"/>	School expense worksheet					
<input type="checkbox"/>	VASA / Golden Valley Lodge participation worksheet					

I certify that all the information I have provided and attached to this scholarship application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I authorize Golden Valley Lodge No. 616 to review my academic records. I authorize the release of any information regarding this application to the membership of Golden Valley Lodge No.616. I authorize public acknowledgment of any Golden Valley Lodge No. 616 scholarship I may receive.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The application must be postmarked or delivered no later than October 1, 2026

Please send the application to the GV Lodge Scholarship Committee:

8201 Canoga Ave, #9035, Canoga Park, CA 91309

(Or bring it to the September 10, 2026, business meeting)



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## 2026 Scholarship Application School Expense Worksheet

*Please attach supporting documentation*

<b>Applicant Name</b>		
	<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>

	Term - 1	Term - 2	Term - 3
Term Ending Date			
Tuition	\$	\$	\$
Books	\$	\$	\$
Fees	\$	\$	\$
Supplies	\$	\$	\$
Equipment	\$	\$	\$
Term total	\$	\$	\$
Year total			\$

**Please note that the scholarship is restricted according to IRS publication 970 as follows:**

- You are a candidate for a degree at an eligible educational institution, and
- You use the scholarship to pay qualified education expenses.

**Candidate for a degree.** You are a candidate for a degree if you:

- Attend an accredited educational institution that is authorized to provide:
  - a. A program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's or higher degree or
  - b. A training program to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.

**Eligible educational institution.** An eligible educational institution maintains a regular faculty and curriculum. It usually has a regularly enrolled body of students in attendance at the place where it carries on its educational activities.

**Qualified education expenses.** For purposes of tax-free scholarships, these are expenses for:

- Tuition and fees are required to enroll at or attend an eligible educational institution, and
- Course-related expenses, such as fees, books, supplies, and equipment, are required for the courses at the eligible educational institution. These items must be required of all students in your course of instruction.

**Expenses that do not qualify:**

- Room and board
- Travel
- Research
- Clerical help, or
- Equipment and other expenses are not required for enrollment or attendance at an eligible educational institution.

**For the 2026-2027 school year, I am also applying for other VASA scholarships:**

None                       Grand Lodge  
 District                     Other Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_                      Initial:



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## **Scholarship Criteria Approved by GVL Membership April 9, 2026**

### **Scholarship Committee members:**

Britt Potter, Beth Bunnell, Gunilla Thelin, Wenche Eklund, and Hubert Pitters

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1. The Golden Valley Lodge No. 616 shall appoint a scholarship chairperson at its January business meeting. The elected chairperson shall create a committee (of at least three members) known as the "Scholarship Committee" to receive applications and to select scholarship recipient(s). No member of the committee is to be related to any applicant.
2. **Golden Valley Lodge No. 616 will allocate \$30,000 this year for scholarships.**
3. Three categories of scholarships may be awarded by the committee each year:
  - \$4,000 maximum to a full-time undergraduate student enrolled in a four-year university
  - \$3,000 maximum to a full-time junior college student, vocational student, or graduate student
  - \$1,000 maximum to a part-time student, regardless of categoryFull-time is defined as a minimum of 12 credit hours, and part-time is defined as a minimum of 6 credit hours.
4. **Subject to limitations, student recipients may apply for scholarships in subsequent years. The accumulated amount granted since the awards' inception in 2002 is restricted to \$18,000 per person, irrespective of category or scholarship criteria in effect at the time of award. If this year's total allocation exceeds \$30,000, applicants with a lifetime accumulated amount of \$15,000 or less will receive priority.**
5. Student applicant must have been Golden Valley Lodge No. 616 member for at least twelve months before the award announcement. Recipients are not age limited.
6. The applicant shall provide the most recent official transcript available. The Applicant shall provide a Letter of Acceptance from the chosen accredited educational institution or proof of enrollment for the **2026-2027** school year.
7. Each applicant is required to write an essay, at most 1000 words, to accompany the application. The committee will decide on the essay topic.
8. Applicant **must** provide one recommendation letter from a **current** GV Lodge board member.
9. Applicant must disclose other VASA scholarship applications for the 2026-27 school year.



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10. Scholarship applications with accompanying documents must be postmarked or delivered by October 1<sup>st</sup>.
11. The committee shall adhere to the following guidelines when awarding scholarships:
  - ❑ Grades 30 points maximum
  - ❑ Essay 15 points maximum
  - ❑ Participation in GV Lodge activities 30 points maximum
  - ❑ Recommendation – current GVL Board 15 points maximum
  - ❑ Grade completion 10 points maximum, 5 points/year

Applicant must reach a minimum score of 60 to receive a scholarship award.

12. The scholarship shall be paid directly to the student.
13. The scholarship is limited to reimbursement of directly related school expenses, such as tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment. The student must document these school expenses for the applicable school year.
14. The award recipient shall be invited to Golden Valley Lodge No. 616's Christmas celebration and is expected to attend the award presentation. The committee may grant an exception if the distance, scheduling, or cost of travel from the educational establishment makes attendance a hardship for the student; a family member then must accept the award on behalf of the recipient.



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## 2026 Scholarship Application VASA / Golden Valley Lodge participation worksheet

***This Scholarship is intended to award 'members' who have contributed to the growth of this Lodge in the past.***

<b>Applicant Name</b>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span><i>Last</i></span> <span><i>First</i></span> </div>
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Category	Year(s)	Activity / task
<b>Personal</b>  <b>GV Lodge</b>		
<b>Personal</b>  <b>VASA</b>		
<b>Personal</b>  <b>Other Swedish Activities</b>		
<b>Family</b>  <b>GV Lodge</b>		
<b>Family</b>  <b>VASA</b>		

Applicant initial: _____
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