

2026 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The New York Grand Lodge Foundation of the Order Sons of Italy in American has announced its 2026 Scholarship program for undergraduate and graduate study. The New York Grand Lodge Foundation, since the inception of its scholarship program, has distributed over one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in scholarship awards to deserving students. These scholarships were established by Filial Lodges, Districts or individuals and have been subsidized by the Grand Lodge Foundation.

One hundred twenty five (125) scholarships and six (6) grants were awarded in 2025. At the present time, we will once again distribute one hundred twenty five (125) scholarships and six (6) grants to a total of 77 students at a special District site program. The monetary award each recipient receives is made payable to the individual and the institution he/she will attend in the fall. Every award recipient will become a Student-Member-At-Large member of the Order.

Requirements for Application:

1. **Undergraduate Awards** are for high school graduates of the year 2026 who will begin full-time undergraduate study in the Fall 2026 semester.
The Graduate Awards are for college graduates of the year 2026 who will begin graduate study in the Fall 2026 semester.
2. **The following must be submitted directly to the District Scholarship Chairperson:**
 - Official High School or College transcript, SAT and /or A.C.T. scores and class rank should be included for High School students.
 - Two letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors.
 - A student essay summarizing educational and career goals, school and community service and a discussion of the significance of your Italian heritage.
3. The scholarships are awards for academic excellence and service, and students must have an average of 85% or above.
4. Applicant must be a resident of New York State and of Italian-American heritage.
5. **The applications and all supportive materials MUST BE RECEIVED by March 31, 2026.**
6. **An application fee of \$10 MUST BE INCLUDED.** Check should be made payable to O.S.I.A. New York State Grand Lodge Foundation.

Requests for applications should be directed to local OSIA Lodges or to:

Scholarship Committee
Order Sons of Italy in America
New York Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc.
2101 Bellmore Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710

Applications are also available on the N.Y.S. OSIA web page at www.nysosia.org.

Members of the OSIA Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee are: Joanne Spera, State Chairperson; Rosemarie Stathes and Margaret Forte, State Co-Chairpersons

District I – Suffolk County – Joanne Spera; **District II** – Nassau County – Grace Ferrara; **District III** – New York City - Rosemarie Stathes; **District IV** – Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties – Margaret Forte; **District V** – Rockland County and surrounding area – Maria D’Aguino; **District VI** – Albany, Saratoga, Montgomery Counties and Schenectady area – Lisa Serafini; **District VII** – New York Northern, Central and Southern tier – Josephine Federico; **District VIII** – Western NY (Rochester, Geneva etc.) – Marjorie Focarazzo; All Graduate school applications – Angelo Grande; All Grant Awards – Kathryn Grande

For additional information, please contact Chairperson Joanne Spera at Cyclonejo51@aol.com or telephone (631) 495-4251.