



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES

2026 JA Summit Indianapolis, IN– July 16-19, 2026

Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 29, 2026– 5:00 p.m. EST

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. The National Office must receive completed applications along with the required financial documentation by 5 p.m. Eastern on Wednesday, April 29, 2026. Please email questions to: [**scholarships@scleroderma.org**](mailto:scholarships@scleroderma.org)

Submit the scholarship application via form link and financial forms as separate attachments.

If necessary, paper applications can be mailed to:

National Scleroderma Foundation

Attention: Scholarship Committee

55 Ferncroft Road, Suite 315

Danvers, MA 01923

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Previous conference scholarship award recipients are ineligible to apply for two (2) years after the year of the initial award, i.e., if you attended the 2025 conference with an in-person Scholarship, you cannot apply again until the 2027 conference. Scholarships are available only to the following individuals: children living with scleroderma and their parents/guardians.

Financial Need: Applicants must meet the financial assistance requirements listed below.

Only one scholarship application will be accepted per family. Funds can be used only for one family member, unless the application is for a minor child with scleroderma, who must be accompanied by a parent and/or guardian. The scholarship would then be given to the minor child living with scleroderma and ONE parent and/or guardian.

APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

- ▶ Financial need.
- ▶ Priority is given to applicants attending their first National Scleroderma Foundation Conference.
- ▶ Consideration is given to applicants actively involved in National Scleroderma Foundation activities.
- ▶ Thoroughness and thoughtfulness of answers to application questions.

FINANCIAL NEED: HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Total household income must fall within the following guidelines:

*This table reflects dollar amounts that are 300% above the Federal Poverty Guidelines

Household Size	Maximum Total Income Level
1	\$43,740
2	\$59,160
3	\$74,580
4	\$90,000
5	\$105,420
6	\$120,840
7	\$136,260
8	\$151,680
each additional person, add \$15,420	

Applicants are allowed to state any extenuating factors (i.e., costs of medical treatments) on the application for which they feel the committee should take into consideration.

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to provide the following financial documentation to verify their total household income. Applications will not be considered without this documentation.

- Most recent IRS Federal Tax Return(s) and/or a copy of the most recent SSDI Annual Income
- Statement Spouse/Partner's recent IRS Federal Tax Return(s) and/or SSDI Annual Income Statement
- Other household family members' most recent IRS Federal Tax Return(s) and/or SSDI Annual Income Statement

If married and filing separately, you must submit the tax return summaries for BOTH the applicant and the spouse.

If there are adults in your household other than a spouse who receives income, you must also provide their tax return and/or SSDI forms (summary page only). These documents must equal the total annual household income amount provided above. If the amounts are not equal, please explain.

Social Security numbers and dates of birth may be blocked out/redacted before submitting (redacted = [REDACTED]).

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD GUIDELINES

The number of scholarships awarded will depend on the availability of donations received for the scholarship fund and the number of qualified applications received. Award decisions made by the Scholarship Committee are final.

Full scholarship awards include the following:

Travel: Airfare (or mileage reimbursement if driving) to the conference

***Flights and Hotel must be booked through the National Scleroderma Foundation's travel agency.**

Hotel Stay: Three (3) nights only for Thursday, July 16, Friday, July 17, and Saturday, July 18, 2026, at the JW Marriott, Indianapolis, IN.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD NOTIFICATIONS

Notice of scholarship status will be sent to all applicants via email in early May. Please be sure to include a valid email address on the application form.

Questions: scholarships@scleroderma.org