The Calvert-Prince Frederick Optimist Club, through their Calvert Optimist Community Parks Foundation, Inc., awards an annual scholarship providing financial assistance to students graduating from Calvert County public high schools seeking post-secondary career education, vocational or technical training (up to a two-year program) at any trade or technical school, college or university approved by the Optimist Club of Calvert which results in the applicant being awarded accredited vocational certification or Associates Degree.

 The $3,000 scholarship is paid at the rate of $1,500 each year and must be used for career education, vocational or technical training. Payments are made directly to the student in advance of the fall semester each year.

**REQUIREMENTS**

1. Applicants must be residents of Calvert County, MD and be in the current graduating class of a Calvert County public high school.
2. Only applicants seeking post-secondary education/training to achieve a vocational certification or Associates Degree will be eligible for consideration of this award.
3. Applicants must be accepted in a two-year certification or Associates Degree program, prior to distribution of this award.
4. Children, stepchildren, and grandchildren of members of the Optimist Club of Calvert-Prince Frederick are not eligible for this award.
5. Scholarship funds for ensuing year will be paid during the month of August directly to thestudent upon the receipt of a certificate of enrollment for the fall semester and a copy of the student’s current transcript. (Mail transcript to address listed in No. 4 of Procedures Section above.)
6. Scholarship awards are scheduled for two annual payments. Any lapse due to temporary personal circumstances of up to one year will be allowed if the recipient advises the Calvert-Prince Frederick Optimist Club of the need to defer/delay payment. Failure to advise the Optimist Club of the need to defer payment will result in forfeiture of future scholarship award payment.
7. The scholarship recipient is expected to attend a meeting of the Optimist Club (if Covid-19 restrictions allow) to receive his/her award.

**PROCEDURES**

1. Applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of members of the Optimist Club of Calvert-Prince Frederick and the final selection for the successful awardee will be made by the committee. If the selected recipient chooses not to utilize the award, an alternative will be chosen by this committee.
2. Applicants will be judged on character, citizenship, scholastic ability, and financial need. Recommendations from various organizations (school, church, Scout programs, 4-H, etc.) will be sought when deemed pertinent and necessary.
3. Applications are available electronically from the Guidance Office at the Calvert County public high school from which the applicant will be graduating or contact the Scholarship Committee (410-257-7012).
4. Applications **MUST BE RECEIVED** by the Scholarship Committee on or before **April 20, 2021**. Late applications will not be accepted. Mail or email one copy of completed application, essay, current school transcript and any attachments (incomplete applications will not be considered) to:

Optimist Scholarship Committee

c/o Betty Knapp

8233 Pushaw Station Road, Owings, MD 20736

or email to testudo74@comcast.net.

1. Scholarship recipient will be notified of the decision of the committee. Notification will be by letter in late May/early June.