



KANSAS PRO CHAPTER

Journalism Scholarship Application (2025)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- College sophomore, junior or senior (2025-26 academic year)
- Enrolled full time at a Kansas accredited college or university (both fall and spring semesters to get full amount)
- Actively **pursuing a career in journalism** (finding & reporting factual information — in print, broadcast or digital formats)
- Minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA

Specific scholarships have their own eligibility requirements. Please read them and mark those for which you are eligible.

THE BILL MURFIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$5,000)

Presented by Murfin Media

Eligibility: Students must have a 3.0 GPA and at least three professional references. This scholarship is presented by the family of the late William R. Murfin, a pioneering business leader in the oil and gas industry and entrepreneurial enterprises. Students must have a 3.0 GPA and at least three professional references.

BILL ROY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$2,000)

Eligibility: This is a scholarship for students who have demonstrated interest in business journalism. Bill Roy was editor-in-chief at the Wichita Business Journal for 20 years, a role he continued to fulfill after being diagnosed with ALS in 2019. He was inducted into the Kansas Press Association Hall of Fame in 2022. In addition to his work at the Business Journal, he was an advocate for those battling the same illness by raising awareness and participating in research efforts. He died in 2023.

THE DANIEL MCCOY SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

Presented by the Wichita Business Journal and the McCoy Family

Daniel spent more than a decade as an award-winning journalist covering manufacturing and aviation for the Wichita Business Journal. He was a longtime member of the SPJ Kansas Pro Chapter Scholarship Committee. Daniel died in 2023.

JERRY SIEBENMARK NEWS SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,500)

Presented by Aviation International News

Jerry Siebenmark, a graduate of Wichita State, combined his love of journalism with his love for aviation. He began his journalism career at the Wichita Business Journal before moving to the Wichita Eagle. He then accepted a position as an aviation reporter and editor for Aviation International News. Siebenmark died in 2023 after a long battle with cancer.

THE MICHAEL BATES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

Eligibility: Must have 3.0 GPA or better. Must have demonstrated involvement in student and/or professional news media. This scholarship honors the memory of former Associated Press journalist Mike Bates, who was president of the Kansas Pro Chapter at the time of his death from lymphoma in 1996.

RANDY BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,500)

Eligibility: Must be a student seriously considering a career in journalism. This scholarship honors Randy Brown, a long-time Wichita journalist and advocate for transparency in government. He also taught at Wichita State University and led the Kansas Sunshine Coalition for Open Government. He died in 2014.

BUD NORMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

Eligibility: This is an open scholarship for students pursuing a career in journalism. This scholarship honors Bud Norman, a reporter and columnist at The Wichita Eagle for 25 years. He died in 2020.

THE LES ANDERSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

Eligibility: Must be a Wichita State student. This scholarship honors the memory of Les Anderson, a Wichita State University journalism professor, newspaper publisher, journalist and longtime friend of Gridiron. Anderson and his wife, Nancy, founded the Ark Valley News in Valley Center in 1975. Anderson worked for five newspapers. He joined the WSU faculty in 1977 and was a longtime member of the SPJ Kansas board of directors and scholarship committee. He was a fierce advocate for his students and respected as a great journalist and a great man. Les died of a heart attack in November 2011.

THE SPJ MINORITY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

Eligibility: Must be member of a racial or ethnic minority group.

CHRIS SHULL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

Eligibility: Student should be pursuing a degree in journalism, have demonstrated an interest about the coverage of arts and music, have and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester. The Chris Shull Memorial Scholarship is to help support students who are passionate about the coverage of arts and music and are looking to find their own voice to do so.

These scholarships are funded in part by the chapter's annual Gridiron benefit, a musical revue satirizing the news and newsmakers.

Please note: The scholarship committee does not discriminate on the basis of sex, creed, race or religious beliefs. The committee reserves the right to withhold all or part of any award should recipients conduct themselves in a manner that chapter officers deem professionally irresponsible. The selection of a recipient does not imply any endorsement by the committee or chapter. The committee has the right to forgo awarding any or all scholarships if no applicants are deemed to qualify.



APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Midnight, Feb. 24, 2025

SEND TO:

Forrest Gossett
Scholarship chair
forrest.gossett@gmail.com

In addition to this form, application packet should include:

- **COVER LETTER:** Tell us about yourself, how you came to be interested in journalism, your professional goals and, if appropriate, your financial need for this scholarship (need is only one criterion considered).
- **RESUME:** Include relevant experience, classes, awards/honors.
- **WORK SAMPLES:** Four to six stories, photographs with captions, headlines, page designs, videos or broadcasts. You may send separate links (please compile into one list), PDFs, or a website portfolio. Try to compile all your documents into a single PDF if possible (except for your photo).
- **PHOTO OF YOURSELF:** For publicity if you are awarded a scholarship.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Home address: _____

School address (if different): _____

Phone: _____

EDUCATION

Current college: _____ Fall 2025 (if different): _____

Major: _____ 2nd Major/minor: _____

Classification in Fall 2025: sophomore junior senior

Expected graduation date: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____ GPA in journalism courses: _____

REFERENCES

Please list names, titles, email addresses and phone numbers of two people who can speak to your academic and journalism abilities and experience. Letters of reference may be included with your materials, but they are not required.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all the information in this application is true and correct, that work samples are my original work, and that I meet the minimum eligibility requirements outlined on the information page.

Name/signature

Date