

2026 Portland Japanese American Community Scholarship

Scholarship Donors:

Gresham-Troutdale JACL, Naito, Nikkei Fujinkai, Oregon Nisei Veterans, Portland JACL, Shokookai, and Veleda

- Eligible applicants and at least one of their parents must be of Japanese Ancestry (Does not apply to Portland JACL Scholarships)
- The parent(s), legal guardian, or student must hold a current membership in at least one of the following organizations listed by December 17, 2025.
- The student must have attended four years (or equivalency) of a high school in the United States. International students are not eligible.
- The applicant must reside within Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington (OR) or Clark (WA) counties. (Does not apply to Portland JACL Scholarships)
- If no acceptable applicant applies, some or all of the scholarships may not be awarded.
- Applicants must be planning to attend full time at a college, university, trade school, business school, or any other institution of higher learning in the academic year following their high school graduation. Students deferring enrollment will not qualify for this scholarship program.

***Note: Grandparent information only used for appropriate acknowledgment at Graduation Banquet.**

Name:			
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Email:			
Phone:		High School Name:	
Parents or Legal Guardian:			
*Grandparents (Living Paternal):		*Grandparents (Living Maternal):	
GPA (overall unweighted)			

Achievements:

On a separate one-page document, list scholastic, community, extra-curricular awards/achievements/leadership positions using the following format:

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
School/Organization/Club	Award/ Achievement			

List School Activities Record:

On a separate one-page document, list your SCHOOL activities using the following format:

School Activity	Brief Explanation Describing Involvement	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Honor Society					
Service Club(s)					
Interest Club(s)					
Newspaper or Yearbook					
Music, Art or Drama					
Athletics					
Others					

List Community/ Work Activities Record:

On a separate one-page document, list your COMMUNITY/WORK activities using the following format:

Activity	Brief Explanation Describing Involvement	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Religious Organizations					
Community Organizations					
Employment					
Others					

Letter of Reference:

Please submit one academic recommendation letter from a teacher or a counselor.

Name:	Address:
Position:	Phone number:

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Please check the organization(s) that you or your parents(s) are a member. (Note: To be an eligible applicant, you, your parent(s) or your legal guardian must hold a current membership in at least one of the following organizations listed by December 17, 2025. Specify the number of years that you have been members. (PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR MEMBERSHIP BELOW WITH EACH ORGANIZATION.)

Participating Organizations	Specify the number of years that you have been a member.
<input type="checkbox"/> Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple	
<input type="checkbox"/> Epworth United Methodist Church	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gresham-Troutdale Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese Ancestral Society (Nikkei Jinkai)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese Women's Society (Nikkei Fujinkai)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nichiren Buddhist Temple of Portland	
<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon Buddhist Temple	
<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon Nisei Veterans	
<input type="checkbox"/> Portland Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Shokookai	
<input type="checkbox"/> Veleda	

Essay #1: Pick one of the following topics and write a 250-500 word essay on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Explain how the Japanese American experience, or your own experiences in working with the community, has shaped you life.
2. What civil rights issues have you encountered in your school? How did you respond?
3. What can we do about anti-Asian hate in our community?
4. Why is it important to teach Asian American history in our schools?
5. Nisei veterans of WWII have received a Congressional Gold Medal and an Oregon Highway named in their honor. How has this affected you?

Essay #2: Field of Interest---Write a 250 word essay on a separate sheet of paper.

Please describe the major Field of Interest you expect to pursue and why.

College you plan to attend (if known)	Name:	Major:	Accepted (Y or N)

Requirements & Deadline

Required Documents:

- Application Form & Supporting "Achievements", "School Activities", and "Community/Work Activities" Documents
- Sealed Transcripts
- Official signed Letter of Reference from a teacher or a counselor
- Two essays on the topics mentioned above

Deadline: Required documents must be completed and postmarked no later than **Saturday, February 28, 2026.**

Mail to: Japanese American Community Scholarships, PO Box 82443 Portland, OR 97282.

Hand delivered, Fed Ex or UPS applications will **NOT** be accepted. Only United States Postal Mail.

You may e-mail any questions to scholarship-questions@pdxjacl.org.

Agreement:

- I agree to be interviewed by a selection committee on **Saturday, April 4, 2026.**
- I understand that I will forfeit all rights to this award if I am selected for this award but do not enter a school of higher learning.
- I understand that I must attend the Japanese American Graduation Banquet on Sunday, **May 3, 2026** to receive my award.

Signature: _____ Date: _____