



Spiritual and Religious Life Scholarships 2025-26 Academic Year

Submit completed applications to SFS (Jones 019 or jpotter@pugetsound.edu) by March 31, 2025

If you have questions or would like to discuss these awards, please contact University Chaplain Rev. Dave Wright, dwright@pugetsound.edu.

The Spiritual and Religious Life Scholarships assist undergraduate students interested in diverse type's spiritual or religious leadership while attending Puget Sound or after college.

- Current leadership can include leadership on campus that engages your spiritual or religious commitments; work or volunteering with local spiritual communities; summertime leadership with spiritual or religious programs; or similar roles.
- Professional post-college leadership can include both clergy/ordained roles and professional or significant non-ordained roles. Some examples: religious educator; ordination or credentialing as a religious professional; chaplaincy; music leadership in a spiritual community; work in faith-related nonprofits; and more.

Most awards are open to all students, while a few prioritize particular spiritual or religious identities. These are all one-year awards; however, students who continue with an interest in spiritual or religious leadership are encouraged to reapply each year. Students are eligible to receive more than one of these awards.

This application will be used for the following awards:

- **Religious Leadership Award: \$2,000-\$5,000** – Several awards will be offered to qualified students who have demonstrated spiritual or religious leadership either on campus or in an off-campus community.
- **Spiritual Life Leaders Mentorship: \$5,000-\$8,000** – Several recipients will be chosen; Spiritual Life Leaders commit to on-campus learning and leadership through the University Chaplaincy for 3-6 hours per week.
- **Cyrus Ames Wright Scholarship: \$5,000-\$15,000** – Varying amounts awarded to several students based on their interest in pursuing professional religious or spiritual leadership.
- **K. James Davis Chaplain's Award for Spirituality and Social Justice: \$2,400** – One award given to a student who has offered leadership to the campus at the intersection of spirituality and social justice and achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher.

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Award-specific questions: Beyond the general Religious Leadership Award, Puget Sound offers the following three types of religious leadership scholarships:

1. Spiritual Life Leaders Mentorship
2. Cyrus Ames Wright Scholarship
3. K. James Davis Chaplain's Award for Spirituality and Social Justice

Please follow the instructions below for each of the awards you wish to be considered for.

Spiritual Life Leaders (SLL) Mentorship 2025-26:

1. Please indicate which types of engagement interest you (check one or several options):
 - a. ___ Leadership related to religious/spiritual communities underrepresented at Puget Sound (Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Baha'i, Sikh, Pagan, and more...)
 - b. ___ Leadership related to Jewish communities and identity
 - c. ___ Leadership related to Christian communities and identity
 - d. ___ Education related to religious diversity
 - e. ___ Personal/Spiritual wellbeing and growth
 - f. ___ Professional religious/spiritual leadership
 - g. ___ General Spiritual Life Leadership
 - h. ___ Other (please write a paragraph about what you're interested in!)

2. In no more than 2 single spaced pages, tell us about your interest in the type(s) of spiritual leadership that you've noted above. Possible things to consider sharing include:
 - a. Why does this work matter to or interest you?
 - b. How would you want to impact our campus/community as an SLL?
 - c. As an SLL, how would you hope to grow in your own identity and sense of self?
 - d. If you are currently receiving this award, how has it helped you grow in your own sense of leadership in relation to your spiritual identity?

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Cyrus Ames Wright Scholarship 2025-26:

1. Please write a 2-3 page, single-spaced essay that describes your sense of call or purpose in pursuing professional/committed religious or spiritual leadership. The essay should address:
 - a. What significant professional, ordained, personal, lay, or volunteer leadership options related to your spiritual/religious tradition are of most interest to you?
 - b. How are you working to develop and grow towards that type of significant leadership in your tradition?
 - c. How do you understand the relationship of your Puget Sound education with long-term leadership in your religious or spiritual tradition?
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K. James Davis Chaplain's Award for Spirituality and Social Justice 2025-26:

Please write a 1-page, single-spaced response to this prompt:

How do you understand the relationship between spirituality and social justice, and how have you worked to pursue both as a Puget Sound student?

I agree that if I am selected for this scholarship, the university may supply information regarding my academic performance and other information (such as, but not limited to, the information submitted with the application) to the scholarship donor or other individuals or groups involved with the administration of this scholarship.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please Note: Puget Sound scholarships and grants may only be applied towards Puget Sound tuition. If a student receives other scholarships, grants, stipends, tuition remission or tuition exchange assistance designated to be used only for tuition and the sum of these awards exceed the cost of tuition, the scholarship or grant will be reduced or withdrawn until the amount of the tuition designed scholarships equal the amount of tuition.

In cases where a student is receiving a "full need commitment" financial aid package such as Tacoma Public Schools (TPS) or Access Programs, any additional scholarship awarded is subject to reduce other need-based grant assistance to ensure demonstrated financial need for the academic year is not exceeded.

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