



Women of Irish Heritage Jersey Shore, Inc.

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2025-2026

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September 10, 2025

Dear Member:

The Women of Irish Heritage Jersey Shore, Inc. announces the 2026 Scholarship competition. Each year the first-place winner has received \$2500, second place \$1500 and third place \$1000. The scholarships will be awarded at our May meeting on Wednesday evening, May 13, 2026.

The competition is open to the children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of members in good standing who have been members for at least one year.

The requirements for the year 2026 eligibility are as follows:

1. The applicant will enter a college of his or her choice in the fall of 2026.
2. An essay of 350 but not to exceed 600 words on the subject "What My Irish Heritage Means to Me."

An essay written by the student incorporating their involvement in the following areas:

- Their Irish Heritage
- Community Service
- Extracurricular scholastic activities
- Their Irish Faith

3. Sponsorship by a Member in Good Standing.
(Dues paid for at least One year).

4. Please do not reference any persons last names in your essay.

The application, along with the requested attachments, is to be emailed to Eileen Donnelly Biennas at eileenbiennas@gmail.com.

The closing date for submitting the application and essay is Friday April 3, 2026. If you have any questions I can be reached by email above or call/text 609-495-4125.

Sincerely,
Eileen Donnelly Biennas
Scholarship Chairperson

WOIHJS PAST PRESIDENTS

Peggy Carroll 1998 – 2002 Eileen Herbert 2002 – 2005 Claudia Monteverdi 2005 – 2006 CC Gerraty 2006 - 2009
Barbara Bassell 2009 – 2012 Mary Keaney 2012 – 2015 Kathy Essner 2015 – 2018 Amanda Cregan 2018 – 2019
Jean McLean 2019 – 2022 Meg Neafsey 2022 – 2025



WOMEN OF IRISH HERITAGE JERSEY SHORE Scholarship Application 2026

Name of Applicant: _____ Telephone: _____

Address _____

_____ Zip Code _____

Name and address of High School from which applicant will graduate:

Name of Guidance Counselor _____

Month and year of High School Graduation _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Name of Sponsor _____ Telephone: _____

Relationship to applicant _____

Address _____

Number of years in WOIHJS, Inc. _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Scholarship Eligibility:

The applicant must be a high school senior who is a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, of any member in good standing for at least one year.

They must provide the following to the committee chairperson by Friday, April 3, 2026

1. A completed scholarship application.
2. A typed essay of 350 but not to exceed 600 words on:

“What My Irish Heritage Means to Me”

An essay written by the student incorporating their involvement in the following areas:

Their Irish Heritage, Community Service, Extracurricular Scholastic Activities, Their Irish Faith

Applicants, DO NOT include your name on the essay.

Please do not reference any person's last names in your essay.

Winners must provide the following by May 6, 2026:

1. Proof that they intend to continue their formal education.

Email your essay to: eileenbiennas@gmail.com

Any questions call/text Eileen Donnelly Biennas 609-495-4125