



**Teachers Association of Long Beach**  
**TALB Scholarship Foundation**  
**2026 Career Advancement Scholarship Award**

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**SUMMARY**

The TALB Career Advancement Scholarship Award is given by the TALB Scholarship Foundation to recognize the value of educators pursuing higher education in order to grow one's capacity as an effective educator. Recipients are current teachers that demonstrate a notable desire to grow as a more effective educator.

Up to **one recipient** will be awarded **\$1,000**. Up to **two runner-ups** will be awarded **\$300 each**.

**ELIGIBILITY**

1. Applicant must be a TALB Bargaining Unit Member in Long Beach Unified School District.
2. Applicant must be enrolled (or plans to enroll) in a college or university in an education-related master's or doctorate degree program with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above or an education-related credential program or class.

**APPLICATION DUE DATE**

All application materials must be received or postmarked by **Friday, April 17th, 2026 by 4:30PM**. Applicants will be notified in May.

**EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS**

1. Applications are evaluated based on the following weighted criteria:

• Autobiographical Essay	20 pts
• Statement of Educational Goals	20 pts
• Perspectives Essay	20 pts
• Letter of Recommendation #1: Educator	10 pts
• Letter of Recommendation #2: Community Member	10 pts
• Professional Appearance & Presentation of Application	10 pts
• Application Completeness & Adherence to Instructions	<u>10 pts</u>
	100 pts
  
2. Applications are read in their entirety by a Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) appointed by the TALB Scholarship Foundation. BRC panelists will score each criteria stated above for each application. **The applications with the highest cumulative scores will be ranked to determine the award recipients and runner-up awards.** In the event of top applications with a tie score, the BRC will deliberate to determine the ranking of those applicants.



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**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

1. Letter of Recommendation #1: Educator
  - From an educator (ie. college professor or dean or administrator or teacher colleague).
  - From a non-relative of the applicant.
  - From someone who has a personal knowledge of the applicant and can attest to the applicant's character and integrity.
  - The letter should specifically mention the name of this scholarship award and offer a recommendation. Please note that general letters of recommendation for college admission or employment are not acceptable.
  - The letter should be **typed and signed**.
  
2. Letter of Recommendation #2: Community Member
  - From an adult outside of the public/private school setting. From a non-educator.
  - From a non-relative of the applicant.
  - From someone who has a personal knowledge of the applicant and can attest to the applicant's character and integrity.
  - The letter should specifically mention the name of this scholarship award and offer a recommendation. Please note that general letters of recommendation for college admission or employment are not acceptable.
  - The letter should be **typed and signed**.

It is preferred that Letters of Recommendation be given to the applicant so that it can be included in the complete application packet. However, individuals writing a letter may send it directly to the TALB Scholarship Foundation, 4362 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807 but must be received or postmarked by the application Due Date. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that this is done on time.



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**AWARD RECIPIENTS AND RUNNER-UPS**

1. Funds are disbursed after recipient submits to the TALB Scholarship Foundation proof of full-time/part-time enrollment in a college or university. Proof must be a course schedule indicating the school name, student name, semester/quarter, and list of courses.
2. Recipients will be invited and are highly encouraged to attend and be recognized at our annual awards and retirement banquet in June. Award recipients and runner-ups may attend at no cost. Additional guests will need to pay the admission cost.
3. Recipients will be asked to provide photos to be included in acknowledgments and recognition on our web site, banquet program booklet, power point, and various marketing purposes.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Upon downloading the scholarship application as a MS Word document, complete each section of the application by typing your responses in the space provided. Handwriting your application is not recommended. Follow all instructions on each page.
2. Before printing your application, double check and make sure that it is formatted professionally. Remember, that you can gain or lose points based on appearance. Do not use more than a 12 point font size and use only standard font typefaces (ie. Times New Roman, Calibri, etc). Submit an application you can be proud of.
3. After printing your application, sign the Student Affirmation section with your signature.
4. Assemble the contents of your complete application packet into a 9 x 12 envelope. **DO NOT STAPLE OR USE A REPORT COVER** that will require disassembly. Your application will need to be photo copied by our office staff.
5. By the Due Date, mail or deliver your complete application packet to TALB Scholarship Foundation, 4362 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807.
6. It is the applicant's responsibility to check his/her email regularly for any correspondence from the foundation and to respond to requests within deadlines.

**A COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET INCLUDES:**

1. The typed scholarship application with completed sections: Applicant Information, Autobiographical Essay, Statement of Educational Goals, and Perspectives Essay.
2. Your signature in the Student Affirmation section.
3. Letter of Recommendation #1: Educator
4. Letter of Recommendation #2: Community Member
5. Official Transcripts – include only official college transcripts bearing the school seal. Transcripts are used to verify the applicant's GPA.