

Gerald Carrothers Memorial Graduate Scholarship Evaluation Rubric

This assessment rubric supports a clear, fair, and accessible review of applications for the Gerald Carrothers Memorial Graduate Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes graduate planning students who demonstrate commitment to the planning profession and make positive contributions to their communities.

The criteria are designed to reflect the expectations of graduate-level study while remaining proportionate and straightforward for both applicants and jurors.

Eligibility

- Must be a student member of OPPI
- Must be enrolled in a full-time, undergraduate planning program for the upcoming academic year

Level	1- Emerging	2- Developing	3- Established	4- Outstanding
Community Contribution and Perceived Impact <i>Considers how the applicant contributes to their community, broadly defined, and the impact of that contribution.</i>	Limited or indirect community involvement is described, with minimal demonstrated impact.	Some community involvement is demonstrated, with modest or short-term impact.	Ongoing community involvement with a clear and positive contribution.	Significant or sustained contribution demonstrating leadership, initiative, or meaningful community impact.
Commitment to the Planning Profession <i>Considers engagement with the planning profession beyond academic requirements.</i>	Limited evidence of engagement with the planning profession outside coursework.	Some involvement in planning-related activities, organizations, or professional events.	Consistent engagement through professional service, research, advocacy, or leadership roles.	Strong and sustained commitment demonstrated through leadership, initiative, or influence within planning-related contexts.
Graduate Study Focus and Career Intent <i>Considers clarity of academic focus and how the applicant</i>	Academic or career focus is unclear or loosely connected to planning outcomes.	General clarity regarding academic interests and planning-related career direction.	Clear articulation of graduate focus and its relevance to planning practice or community outcomes.	Compelling and well-defined academic and professional direction with strong alignment to public interest planning.

<i>intends to apply their graduate studies to planning practice and the public interest.</i>				
Academic and Professional Engagement <i>Considers engagement in graduate-level learning, research, or applied professional experiences.</i>	Limited engagement beyond required program components.	Some engagement through projects, research, assistantships, or applied learning.	Active involvement demonstrating integration of academic learning and professional practice.	Exceptional engagement demonstrating initiative, leadership, or applied impact at a graduate level.
References <i>Considers how effectively references support the applicant's commitment, contributions, and potential as a graduate planning professional.</i>	References provide limited detail or specificity regarding the applicant's contributions or potential.	References speak positively to the applicant's abilities and engagement.	References clearly support the applicant's commitment to planning, graduate study, and community contribution.	References provide strong, specific examples demonstrating impact, leadership, and future potential.

Total score: /20