

# The Vincent Salierno Scholarship

## Background

Vincent Salierno was born in 1903 in Magliano Italy. From humble immigrant beginnings he established a successful optical company in Newark, Victory Optical Manufacturing Company in 1941, and grew to be a respected leader in the optical industry. Throughout his life, Vincent, known to his friends and family as Jimmy, was a generous and loved man. He supported an orphanage, a hospital, and a church in his place of birth. He was also on the Board of Directors of the Columbus Hospital in New Jersey. His family valued and continued his philanthropy and after his death in January 1973, his widow Rose established the Vincent Salierno Scholarship Fund with the American Optometric Foundation to provide scholarships to students in the field of optometry. Over the past thirty years over one hundred scholarships have been awarded.



## Award

One scholarship of \$1,500 will be awarded to each of the eligible institutions for the academic year. The Foundation will contact eligible institutions based on the rotation schedule below.

## Eligibility

A first year student pursuing a Doctorate of Optometry degree is nominated by his/her institution for this scholarship. Second, third, and fourth year students of optometry enrolled in a full-time course of study are also eligible, but they must have a 3.0 ("B") average for all course work taken thus far in optometry school. The Vincent Salierno Scholarship is eligible for automatic renewal provided that the recipient maintains a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and is enrolled in a full-time course of study leading to a Doctorate of Optometry degree.

## Application and Review Procedures

The AOF informs the schools designated for the current year's program that it may seek candidates. One student will be chosen by the appropriate scholarship and awards committee of the selected school, using their own judgment based on the criteria stated in this paragraph. The Vincent Salierno Scholarship is intended for a student who has extraordinary financial needs and would otherwise be hard pressed, if not incapable, of meeting the financial requirements of attending optometry school. Therefore, financial need is the primary criteria for selection. In making the selection of a recipient, the awarding school may not use any criteria other than financial need and secondarily academic progress and/or potential in its decision.

**Continuing Eligibility**

Every Vincent Salierno Scholarship recipient shall continue to receive the annual award so long as he/she maintains a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and is enrolled in a full-time course of study leading to a Doctorate of Optometry degree. Continuing eligibility shall be determined annually.

**Rotation Schedule**

The following rotation cycle may be altered by the Foundation Board:

University of California, School of Optometry – retained 2011

University of Waterloo, School of Optometry – eligible 2011

Universite de Montreal, Ecole d'optometrie – eligible 2011

The Ohio State University, College of Optometry

State University of New York, College of Optometry

University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry

University of Missouri, College of Optometry

Northeastern State University, College of Optometry

Inter-American University, School of Optometry

Southern College of Optometry

Illinois College of Optometry

Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Ferris State University, College of Optometry

NOVA/Southeastern University, College of Optometry

Southern California College of Optometry

University of Houston, College of Optometry

New England College of Optometry

Pacific University, School of Optometry

Midwestern University, Arizona College of Optometry

University of the Incarnate Word School of Optometry

Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry

Indiana University, School of Optometry