

New KEDA Scholarship Policy

For the 2021 calendar year, KEDA has allocated \$5,000 for professional development scholarships. The KEDA President shall appoint a Scholarship Committee consisting of at least four persons.

HEARTLAND SCHOLARSHIPS:

- KEDA pays tuition fees and the cost is \$595 for each person
- KEDA awards four scholarships (3 scholarships are paid by KEDA and 1 scholarship is paid by Heartland)
- Applications for the scholarships are provided to member(s) in November. The Scholarship Committee will review applications in December and make their recommendation for awards. Notice to recipients will be given in early January.
- Anyone not able to attend the training must repay the scholarship. If the training is cancelled or delayed, the scholarship may be retained for up to one year provided the person awarded the scholarship remain employed in the field of economic development in Kansas during that time period.

The balance of the funds will be available for other scholarships:

KEDA supports in person and online learning offered by national and multi-state professional development organizations such as International Economic Development Council, Economic Development Institute, National Rural Economic Development Association, Mid-America Economic Development Council, the National Development Council, Southern Economic Development Council and Community Development Institute. Professional development learning opportunities presented by other entities may be authorized by the Scholarship Committee.

Pending available funds, scholarships may be awarded for attending educational sessions offered by those organizations. Requests for a scholarship should be made at least 60 days in advance utilizing the form provided on the KEDA website. The applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Committee. They have been authorized to expend the amount budgeted provided regular reports are made to the KEDA Board of Directors.

Criteria for all scholarship recipients:

- Must be current on membership dues.
- An organization represented by a KEDA member may receive up to \$1,000 in combined scholarships annually.
- With the exception of the Heartland Conference, scholarships are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- To be eligible for a scholarship, the member must not have previously participated in the conference or training.
- Funds are to be used to strictly cover registration costs. No travel related expenses will be covered.
- Once scholarship recipients completed the course, they submit a one-page summary on the benefits they derived from the course and a copy of the documentation showing that they have completed the course.
- If funds are awarded for an individual who then leaves the organization, the funds remain with the sponsoring organization.