

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE CHAIR  
P.E.O. PROGRAM FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION  
2021-2022

As the 2021 year ends and a new year begins, this chair finds everyone a bit more relaxed and certainly hopeful that sisters can move forward with their projects and chapter events. Only recently have colleges and universities relaxed restrictions and brought more students back to campus. But the uncertainty of Covid-19 has still had a definite impact on scholarship applications and women's decisions to return to academic pursuits. Hopefully, this coming year will see an increase in activity and scholarship and in chapters' ability to meet and support deserving candidates.

Ohio chapters successfully supported 12 candidates for the PCE scholarships this year. A total of \$27,400 was awarded between March 1, 2021, and February 28, 2022. The number of successful candidates is less than last year, but the amount of the scholarship awards is proportionately greater, so that is good news. Congratulations to chapters J, AH, CB, CH (2), DL, DY, DZ, EK, EO, and ER. These chapters managed to find and support candidates for the PCE scholarship. This chair is certain that functioning under Covid-19 restraints and conditions was not an easy task. This chair truly appreciates the time and dedication required to help these women pursue their goals. Thank you!

This chair received 13 P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education Potential Applicant forms forwarded by the International Program for Continuing Education Supervisor during the past year. A minimum of 26 chapters in the geographical area of the applicant's home or institution were contacted. Chapters are not required to contact applicants, but this chair is aware of contacts made by multiple chapters. She is encouraged to know that chapters are very responsive to a potential candidate and focus on helping whenever possible. At least three of the potential applicants were not only supported by a chapter but received a substantial award. This chair recognizes the importance of the Potential Applicant form and has talked with chapters about contacting local institutions to add P.E.O. information to their financial aid websites.

One of those women who found PCE scholarships online and submitted the Potential Applicant form will be the PCE speaker at convention this year. Alissa Kirk received the full scholarship amount in 2017 and was able to complete her associate degree. Alissa was sponsored by Chapter DL, Newark, and it has been this chair's pleasure to work with Chapter DL and Alissa preparing for the convention.

This chair is so pleased to report that 49 chapters have been designated as "Brighter Tomorrow Chapters" for 2022. This means that each chapter gave \$500 or more to the PCE Scholarship Project. From the "Brighter Tomorrow Chapters", over \$32,000 was given to the project. This chair is hopeful that more chapters will join the 49 and make an even bigger impact next year in supporting PCE and the deserving women it supports. To learn more about becoming a "Brighter Tomorrow Chapter", go to the P.E.O. International website at [peointernational.org](http://peointernational.org) and click on Project for Continuing Education.

This chair would like to thank all chapters that supported and participated in the PCE Scholarships this year. It has not been easy to have fund raising events nor bring potential candidates into chapters. There is a strong commitment on the part of chapters to provide as much support and assistance as possible, but that takes time and determination. Many chapters have demonstrated this during the past year. This chair is honored to be a part of the ongoing mission to support women in education and has had the pleasure of talking with very dedicated and determined sisters who also know and respond to the need. Thank You.

*Muriel L. Ballou, FE, PCE Chair*