

2026 Karl Bishop Scholarship

“If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.” Sir Isaac Newton

Who is Karl Bishop?



In 2016 the Karl Bishop Scholarship Fund was established by Lightning City Gymnastics to recognize Karl Bishop's commitment and contributions to the sport of Men's Artistic Gymnastics.

Karl attended Florida State University, where he started gymnastics and became a member of the FSU Men's Gymnastics Team. He went on to become Co-Captain of the Men's Team. He started the Boys' Program at LaFleur's Gymnastics in Largo, Florida in 1982 and moved to the Apollo School of Gymnastics in 1987 where he started a boys' program and

eventually purchased the school from Gene Stowe in 1990.

After selling Apollo in 2008, Karl and his wife, Angie, continued to teach gymnastics in the Tampa Bay area with Tumbles Mobile Gymnastics.

Karl was a National Card holder in the Men's Program and was an FIG Brevet Judge for 20 years. He was a Safety Certifier and Trainer for USA Gymnastics for over 20 years. During competition season, Karl stays involved with the competitive world by running competitions through his company MeetMagic.net.

By standing on the shoulders of the many who have helped him along the way, Karl and Lightning City are doing what they can to lift others up and pay it forward.

Athlete Qualifications

If the Applicant will be attending college on an athletic scholarship, verify with your college adviser if you will be eligible to receive this scholarship should it be awarded, before you apply. NCAA guidelines state that the receipt of gifts or other benefits because of your athletics ability or reputation may cause an athlete to lose eligibility.

To be eligible for this scholarship an applicant must:

- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (unofficial transcript acceptable)
- Be a Florida competitive gymnast in the USA Gymnastics Men's Program during his senior year of High School.
- Be attending college, or Trade School, in the 2026-2027 school year
- Submit a 300-500 word essay describing the role of gymnastics in his life and your family's life.

If an injury prevented the applicant from participation during their Senior year in High School, please have his coach submit a verification of injury with his application.

Application Deadline

- **The deadline for submitting Applications for the 2025 Scholarships is February 28, 2026.**

Scholarship Information

The minimum Scholarship amount is \$500.00 and will be presented to the recipients at the Florida USA Gymnastics State Championships.

Scholarship Funding

This scholarship is endowed through a fund established by Lightning City Gymnastics.

Scan and email the completed Application to karl@tumbles2flip.com. Or, the completed Application can be mailed to:

Karl Bishop Scholarship Fund
4711 Wolfram Lane
New Port Richey, Florida 34653

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Once entrance to the College or University is confirmed by the Office of Admissions, the funds awarded to the Recipients will be distributed directly to the Institution that he will be attending in the Summer or Fall of 2026. In the event that the Recipient is undecided, the funds will not be distributed until entrance to the Institution has been confirmed by the Office of Admissions.

Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

e-mail Address: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Names: _____

Gymnastics Club Affiliation: _____

Highest Level of Competition: _____ Number of Years in Gymnastics: _____

Florida Resident: _____ YES _____ NO

GPA: Weighted: _____ Unweighted: _____

Name of High School: _____

Address of High School: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Guidance Counselor Name: _____

Direct Telephone Number: _____

College/Trade School Attending in 2025: _____

Athletic Scholarship?: _____ YES _____ NO Academic Scholarship?: _____ YES _____ NO

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