

**NATIONAL BLACK OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CAUCUS**  
**FRANCES SWIFT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**



**Biography on Frances Swift:**

Frances Mae Swift, also known as “Fran”, was an African American Occupational Therapist and advocate for racial equality in healthcare. Fran graduated from the University of Buffalo Occupational Therapy Program. She was Chief Occupational Therapist at Mt. Carmel Hospital in Detroit, and traveled nationally and internationally to provide occupational therapy services. She also spoke six languages; French, Italian, German, Spanish, Chinese and Swahili. She was a role model and mentor for many thus leaving behind a legacy of excellence in service.

On Sept 1, 1983 during the cold war, Frances was one of 269 passengers who died tragically on the ill-fated Korean Airlines Flight 007 shot down by the Soviet Union; whose military mistook it for a US spy plane. She was en-route to Japan to explore the linkage between Asians and African-Americans. At her untimely death Fran was a dedicated and impactful member of the Black Occupational Therapy Caucus (BOTC).



*The National Black Occupational Therapy Caucus*

### **PURPOSE:**

The scholarship award was established in 1984 to honor the pioneering Black Occupational Therapist, Frances Swift. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial incentive and encouragement to students pursuing a career in Occupational Therapy.

### **FINANCIAL DATA:**

The award is given annually and the amount of the award varies.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- The applicant must be an African American student (OT or OTA) enrolled in an accredited program pursuing a career in Occupational Therapy Program, in the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands
- The applicant must have an overall minimum GPA of 2.5. In addition, the scholarship award must be applied toward academic study (books, tuition, fees, etc.)
- The applicant must have successfully completed a minimum of one semester in an OT/OTA program as demonstrated by an official transcript
- The applicant must not be preparing to receive a degree in occupational therapy during the same semester that the scholarship is awarded
- Finally, the applicant **MUST** be a current financial student member of the National Black Occupational Therapy Caucus at the time of submission

### **SELECTION NOTIFICATION**

Selection will be made on a competitive basis by the NBOTC Scholarship Committee. The winner must be able to attend the NBOTC 50th Anniversary Gala March 22, 2024 or submit a video.



*The National Black Occupational Therapy Caucus*

## **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

All interested applicants are required to complete the attached application form and submit the required documents to the [2024 Frances Swift Scholarship Online Form](#). It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all required documents are submitted by the established deadline. Please include your first and last name on each document (e.g. *Brendan Cook scholarship packet*), when submitting.

As stated earlier, the following documents must be submitted to the [2024 Frances Swift Scholarship Online Form](#)

- Application Form (see below)
- Applicants must submit a 300-400 essay on their leadership ability and community service, specifically highlighting how they plan to implement these skills in the profession. Grammatical correctness and clear, concise writing are important in the evaluation of the applicant
- Official Transcript: must have GPA present for verification of eligibility. If unable to download the official transcript, applicants can email the transcript to [NBOTCScholarship@gmail.com](mailto:NBOTCScholarship@gmail.com). WHEN DOING THIS, PLEASE ENSURE THAT NAME IS PROVIDED IN THE SUBJECT SECTION OF EMAIL.
- Applicants must submit letters of recommendation from two people, who are not related to the applicant, that can speak to the applicant's academic performance, professionalism, and community service involvement. Recommenders must have known the applicants for at least six months
- Headshot/Passport Size Photo: the photo of the scholarship winner(s) will be released on our NBOTC website

## **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS**

The deadline for all applications will be **February 22, 2024 at 11:59PM CST**. The entire scholarship packet must be submitted on the [2024 Frances Swift Scholarship Online Form](#) by **11:59 PM CST** of the above date in order to be eligible for consideration. Extenuating circumstances may be considered, on an as needed basis.

If you have any questions, please contact the Scholarship Committee Chair at [NBOTCScholarship@gmail.com](mailto:NBOTCScholarship@gmail.com).



*The National Black Occupational Therapy Caucus*



**NATIONAL BLACK OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CAUCUS**  
**FRANCES SWIFT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**  
**APPLICATION FORM**

NAME: (First Middle Last)

---

MAILING ADDRESS: (city/state/zip code)

---

---

MOBILE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

You must be currently enrolled in an accredited Occupational Therapy Program (OT/OTA).  
Please indicate your current educational status.

SCHOOL/INSTITUTE/COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

ADDRESS: (street, city, state, zip code)

---

---

PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

---

This scholarship award will be applied for classes that begin/began: Month/Year

---

Enrollment in this program is: Full time \_\_\_ Part time \_\_\_

The deadline for all applications will be **February 22, 2024 at 11:59PM CST**. The entire scholarship packet must be submitted on the [2024 Frances Swift Scholarship Online Form](#) by **11:59 PM CST** of the above date in order to be eligible for consideration. Extenuating circumstances may be considered, on an as needed basis.

If you have any questions, please contact the Scholarship Committee Chair at [NBOTCScholarship@gmail.com](mailto:NBOTCScholarship@gmail.com).



*The National Black Occupational Therapy Caucus*

