



Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry

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Kenneth Lawenda Scholarship to Attend the ARBO Annual Meeting

ARBO has established the Kenneth Lawenda Scholarship in honor of Dr. Kenneth Lawenda, former member of the Board of Directors who passed away unexpectedly in 2023. The scholarship is awarded to a Board member or staff person from an ARBO member board who demonstrates the same passion and vision for the regulation of optometry that Dr. Lawenda exemplified. *(Note: More than one scholarship may be awarded.)*

Lawenda Scholarship Details:

ARBO Member Boards may nominate one of their Board members or staff for the scholarship. The recipient of the award will receive the following:

- Complimentary registration for the Annual Meeting
- Accommodations for up to three nights at the meeting hotel
- Airfare to the meeting city (coach class, reservation must be made at least 2 weeks in advance of the meeting)
- Applicants may apply for both a Lawenda scholarship and a travel stipend. However, if a scholarship is awarded, the applicant will not also be eligible for a travel stipend.
- ARBO will make the hotel reservation, applicants will need to make their own airline reservation and ARBO will reimburse them for the airfare after the annual meeting. Receipts will be required.

Lawenda Scholarship Criteria:

- Must be a Board member or staff person of an ARBO Member Board in good standing.
- Candidates must be nominated by the leadership of an ARBO Member Board.
- Nominations must be submitted by March 13, 2026.
- Submit a letter on your Board letterhead stating why you feel the candidate should be given the scholarship.
- Include the following in your letter:
 - Background information on your candidate— length of time on your Board, positions held, involvement in ARBO activities, etc.
 - Regulatory Board program support— Briefly explain any programs/projects for which your candidate has made significant contributions to your regulatory Board.
 - Provide any additional information that you would like ARBO to know about your candidate.
- The ARBO Board of Directors will review all applications and decide who to award the scholarship(s) to.
- The recipient(s) will be notified by April 8, 2026.

To be considered for the Lawenda scholarship for the 202 ARBO Annual Meeting, please submit your nominations to Lisa Fennell, ARBO Chief Executive Officer, by email: lfennell@arbo.org no later than March 13, 2026.