



2016 Ecological Literacy Immersion Program Partial Scholarship Application July 3-29, 2016

Dear ELIP Scholarship Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Ecological Literacy Immersion Program at Omega Institute. Enclosed you will find the 2016 scholarship application. **Please take the time to thoroughly read this information before filling out your application.**

Solving today's challenges requires ecological literacy—an understanding of the patterns and principles that underlie all living systems. This transformational 4-week residential certificate program provides participants with an innovative approach to landscape and community design, to regenerate the health and wellbeing of people and our planet.

Omega believes that the benefits of a holistic education should be available to everyone. The Omega Scholarship Program is one of the ways we demonstrate our commitment to building a holistic learning community, increasing our responsiveness to barriers that exist, and creating greater access to the educational opportunities offered by Omega.

Please submit a *Program Application* for the 2016 Ecological Literacy Immersion Program (ELIP) along with this scholarship form. A *Recommendation Form* is also required for ELIP scholarship applicants. All forms can be found on the program website at www.eomega.org/ELIP.

Scholarship Determination:

Scholarships are evaluated and awarded based on the criteria outlined below, and in the order received. Funding is limited, so apply early and be sure to allow several weeks for processing. Only one scholarship per applicant will be awarded for the 2016 Rhinebeck campus season.

Funds for tuition assistance are limited. Please do not apply if you have other means of support as we have participants who cannot access the program without these funds.

Application deadline: Scholarship applications will be processed starting January 31st, 2016, and on a rolling basis thereafter until all spaces are full. Please contact Laura Weiland at lauraw@eomega.org for details.

Balance due: Partial scholarship recipients will need to pay the program deposit of \$500 to hold their space in the program. Any remaining balance is due by June 10th, 2016.

Other requirements: Scholarship recipients may be asked to help spread the word about the course, help with photography, blogging, and social media, and/or other contributions they may be able to make to support the program. All scholarship recipients commit to completing 3 program surveys:

1. On the last day of the course
2. 6 months after the program
3. 1 year after the program

What do scholarships cover?

The total cost of participating in a program includes tuition, camping, meals, access to campus amenities, and, if applicable, the children's program. A partial scholarship covers some portion of these costs. If you require indoor housing, you will need to pay the difference between Omega's listed price for camping and the price of your chosen housing type. A limited number of shared indoor accommodations are available at discounted rates. Contact lauraw@eomega.org for more information.

Is transportation covered?

The cost of transportation to/from Omega is NOT included in the scholarship; please make sure you are able to cover the cost of your travel expenses.

How do you decide who receives a scholarship?

Assessments of applications take into account financial need (using the guidelines in the form below), strength of the applicant's program application, and responses to the personal essay question in the scholarship application. Tuition assistance is primarily awarded to people with a strong desire to apply what they learn in the course in their work, lives and communities; bring a diversity of perspectives, background, and experience; and would not be able to afford to attend without a scholarship.

How do I make sure I am registered?

You must submit a program application along with your scholarship application for this program. Submitting your applications does not automatically register you for this course. When a participant is accepted into the program, and a scholarship has been awarded, we will register you and send you confirmation.

If you are offered a scholarship, you will be asked to confirm your attendance within two weeks. If you are unable to confirm your attendance, we may offer your scholarship to another applicant. For recipients of partial scholarships, a program deposit of \$500 is needed to hold your space in the program. Any remaining balance is due by June 10, 2016.

If I am not awarded a scholarship, is there any chance I could get one later?

If you do not receive a scholarship, you will be put on a waiting list. If someone cancels their scholarship, or we end up with more available funds than initially expected, we will reconsider people on the waiting list.

What if I still have questions?

If your question is not addressed here, please email lauraw@eomega.org or call 845.266.4444, ext. 377. If you leave a voicemail, we may not always be able to call you back immediately – thank you for your patience.

Again, thank you for the interest you have shown in the Ecological Literacy Immersion Program. Your request is important to us and will be carefully considered. You will be notified by email that we have received your application.

Sincerely,

Laura Weiland & the Omega Scholarship Team

**2016 Ecological Literacy Immersion Program
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

All questions (including essay) must be complete for this application to be valid.

Please print clearly.

A program application must be submitted along with this form

Applicant Information:

Name: _____

Do you have any time available to help promote the course, or a particular skill set that you are able to offer to support ELIP 2016 before, during or after the program?

Household Income Eligibility:

Household Size

**To be eligible for a scholarship your maximum
household income cannot exceed**

1	\$29,175
2	\$39,325
3	\$49,475
4	\$59,625
5	\$69,775

***Please note that fitting into these financial guidelines does not automatically qualify you for a scholarship.*

Total Household Gross Annual Income as reported on most recent tax forms: \$ _____

Total number of people in household (as shown on tax forms): _____

Personal Essay:

Determining factors in awarding scholarships take into account the financial need, personal desire, and/or professional commitment of each applicant. If you have met the income eligibility criteria, please take the time to briefly describe why you should be considered for an Omega scholarship. Please type on a separate page or write legibly. You may attach extra paper if needed.

I certify that all of the above information is true and correct and that all income is reported. I understand that this information will be kept strictly confidential and is used only in determining scholarship eligibility. If I am selected for a scholarship I understand that I am committing to the submission of 3 program surveys following the course.

If you have questions or require additional information, please email or call Laura Weiland: Lauraw@eomega.org or 845.266.4444 ext. 377