

Scholarship Information Sheet

The 2024 scholarship cycle is February 5th to April 3rd. We encourage all students to apply. Our general application is the primary portal to apply to all of our open scholarship opportunities. We hope you find this application process to be simple and easy to complete. The general application will match you with all qualifying opportunities. There are 60 plus scholarship opportunities available with different criteria.

Please visit https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=austincfs to create an account and apply. Here you will be able to submit, modify and upload needed documents for our various scholarship opportunities. Here is a list of the items needed to complete the application.

- / Have your recent transcripts available, official transcripts are preferred.
- / Write a short essay to the provided prompt; some opportunities may require an additional narrative essay answer.
- / It is required that you submit a letter of recommendation; you will need your recommenders name & email. Some opportunities may require multiple letters of recommendation. You can send the request directly from the application.
- / Please view our student guide for additional information on how to apply: **SLM User Guide Student**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Below are some commonly asked questions. If your inquiry is not included in this information, please email: scholarships@austincf.org.

When will I be notified if I got a scholarship award?

The 2024 awardee notifications will begin the week of May 20th via email. You will have until July 8th to complete the post acceptance steps.

When will the scholarship payment be processed?

The 2024 scholarship disbursements will begin the week of July 22nd. The disbursement will be issued directly to the accredited school you selected.

What does my scholarship cover?

The scholarship disbursement covers tuition and fees, books, supplies, and educational expenses based on the recipient's needs. The scholarship should be applied to reduce the family financial contribution and not the financial aid package. The student can be full or part time status but must be in good academic standing with the educational institution. The scholarship can be divided amongst past or future semesters. Any unused portion of the

scholarship should be returned to Austin Community Foundation and <u>cannot be refunded to the student</u>, unless for reimbursement of approved expenses.

Can my scholarship be deferred?

Some scholarships can be deferred within a specific time <u>upon approval</u> before it is forfeited. You will still need to complete the post acceptance form by the July 8th deadline. Please send your deferral request to email: scholarships@austincf.org.

How to check on my scholarship payment?

Once you are logged into your account in our online scholarship portal, navigate to the homepage of your scholarship dashboard. Click on "Award Details" next to the awarded opportunity.

Can my scholarship be distributed to me?

No, we can only process payment directly to your accredited school. The school cannot refund any amount to you unless it is for reimbursement of approved expenses.

How will I know if my school is accredited?

We will only approve payments to accredited institutions for your protection. Accreditation is the third-party evaluation of the institution against educational and industry standards. Licensing is the approval from local municipalities to operate an institution. There are instances where a school may have a license but not yet be accredited. Please use the application tool provided at: https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home or search the school website to confirm accreditation status.

What if I change schools?

You can update your school information by including your school's website link, and your student ID# via email. Please send an email to: scholarships@austincf.org. Allow 48 hours to process this update.

What if I decide not to attend?

Please contact your school as soon as possible to help prevent the accumulation of fees and request the school to process a refund. Also contact Austin Community Foundation via email. You may email: scholarships@austincf.org with your student ID# and school and we will follow up.

Can I attend more than one school?

We generally don't split disbursement payments. This request would need to be submitted via email to scholarships@austincf.org. Please include the school information, student ID# and a brief explanation for consideration.

How do I update my name or identifier?

After you have logged on to your account, select your profile in the top right corner. Here you can update your address, name, identifiers, or email.

How do I know if my letter of recommendation is complete?

On your account homepage, on the far right it will show you the third-party request that were sent. If you follow the instructions for "How can I check for updates" below, your email history will inform you of the email status of the recommender request, reminders, and completion. If you need to update or change your recommender for any reason, please email: scholarships@austincf.org with your recommender's full name and current email address.

How can I check for updates?

To get a quick update, you can log into your scholarship account. After you have logged on to your account, select View Application next to the <u>Austin Community Foundation Scholarship Application 2024</u>. Under the contact tab, select the *contact email history*. All emails that were sent to you from our system will be listed here.