

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA, REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

PanHellenic Scholarship Awards

The PanHellenic Scholarship Awards ("Awards") are offered to recognize and honor Greek American students of high scholastic achievement and reward all recipients with monetary awards.

The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation ("Foundation") will offer a total of \$250,000 to forty (40) recipients selected by the Academic Committee as follows:

- **Twenty (20) Awards of \$10,000 each based on academic achievement and financial need.**
- **Twenty (20) Awards of \$2,500 each based solely on academic achievement. ***

All applicants must meet the Eligibility Requirements and submit a complete PanHellenic Scholarship Application ("Application") to the Foundation.

* The Foundation reserves the right to award more or less based on funding. \$20,000 given specifically for music and arts majors.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

University/College Students: Full time traditional undergraduate students who currently attend an accredited university/college in the U.S. and are pursuing a four-year bachelor degree.

- Applicants must be U.S. Citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents and living in the U.S.
- Applicants must be of Hellenic descent.
- Applicants must have a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.5 in order to qualify.
- Students who are enrolled at an accredited university/college in the U.S. in **Fall 2020** as full-time, traditional students* and are pursuing a four-year bachelor degree are eligible to apply.
- Students who have graduated from a non-U.S. high school are eligible to apply when they have completed 24 credit hours at an accredited university/college in the States.
- Students from West Point, the Naval Academy, and other U.S. military academies are eligible to apply.

* With COVID restrictions we understand that traditional universities have moved most classes online. If you attend a traditional university, but are doing classes only online due to COVID, you are still eligible to apply.

ELIGIBILITY LIMITATIONS

- Directors, officers, Academic Committee members, employees of the Foundation and their immediate families are not eligible to apply for an Award.

FINANCIAL CRITERIA

To qualify as a **financial-need applicant for the \$10,000 Scholarship Award**, the applicant must meet the following income criteria:

<u>Family Size</u> (total number of exemptions in tax return)	<u>Average Annual Adjusted Gross Income for 2018-2019</u> (must be less than)
1	\$48,000
2	\$64,000
3	\$81,000
4	\$98,000
5	\$115,000
6	\$131,000
7	\$148,000
8	\$165,000
Each additional	\$13,000

The PanHellenic uses the following documents to verify and determine financial need:

1) 2020-2021 Student Aid Report (SAR) from your **online FAFSA** account. This is the FAFSA you prepared for the current academic year. Please see the document labelled [“Instructions for Retrieving your Student Aid Report \(SAR\).”](#)

2) IRS Transcripts of your/your family's Tax Return from 2018.

Please see the document labeled [“Instructions on how to Retrieve your/your family IRS Tax Returns”](#)

Retrieve a transcript of your/your family's 2018 tax return [here](#).

3) IRS Transcripts of your/your family's Tax Return from 2019.

Please see the document labeled [“Instructions on how to Retrieve your/your family IRS Tax Returns”](#)

Retrieve a transcript of your/your family's 2019 tax return [here](#).

Additional financial information may be requested, if needed.

Interested applicants who do not meet the above financial income criteria, may apply for the \$2,500 Award, which is based solely on academic merit. However, if an applicant applies for the \$10,000 award and does not qualify, he/she will not be automatically considered for the \$2,500 award.

NOTE: Applicants who are still dependents will submit their parents' tax returns for 2018 & 2019, but if they are not, then they will submit their own tax return.

All financial information remains confidential.

ACADEMIC LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Two (2) academic letters of recommendation are required for all applicants. **Letters must be prepared by teachers, professors, or instructors.** All academic letters of recommendation must be written by a full-time or part-time (adjunct) college faculty on departmental stationery. College freshmen may obtain one of the two academic letters of recommendation from a high school teacher if necessary. Recommenders must prepare a recommendation letter which specifically addresses your scholastic performance.

Upperclassmen are recommended to obtain at least one academic letter from a faculty member in their **major field**.

Recommendation letters prepared by other individuals such as graduate teaching assistants, guidance counselors, academic advisors, principals, etc., will not be accepted and the application will be disqualified.

If you are a music or arts major, one of your letters **MUST** be from an instructor familiar with your work.

Please DO NOT send more than two (2) Academic Letters of Recommendation.

Recommenders will submit letters DIRECTLY to the Foundation through an online link sent directly by the application once applicants fill out recommenders' contact information.

PERSONAL LETTER OF REFERENCE

One (1) personal reference letter is required for all applicants. Letters must be written by individuals who can provide insight into the applicant's personality and overall character. Examples of what they can talk about: work ethic, dedication to Hellenism, leadership ability, or community service. These individuals may include current or previous employers, members of the community or professional organizations, or club sponsors.

Personal references prepared by relatives will not be accepted and the application will be disqualified.

Please DO NOT send more than one (1) Personal Letter of Reference.

References will submit letters DIRECTLY to the Foundation through an online link sent directly by the application once applicants fill out references' contact information.

Transcripts

Applicants must upload unofficial transcripts from the institution that they currently attend, as well from any college/university previously attended.

All college freshmen must upload high school transcripts as well as university transcripts. Students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA requirement of 3.5 for both high school and university. College sophomores, juniors, and seniors need only to upload university transcripts.

The Foundation may request official transcripts during the evaluation process. All transcripts must be sent by the issuing academic institution directly to the Foundation via email (unless your university only offers a mail option) no later than the deadline as stated by the Scholarship Director at the time of notice.

Your Transcript MUST have your Fall 2020 grades.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Music and Arts Majors

If you are a music or arts major applying for either the \$10,000 or \$2,500 scholarship awards, you are **required** to submit samples of your artwork or musical performance, in addition to the scholarship requirements. Please follow these guidelines to submit samples of your work.

Submission Notes

- Pre-recorded solo performances, such as recitals, concerts, or competitions, are acceptable to submit.
- If you are submitting a musical performance, it is preferred to submit recordings which include the accompaniment, if required by the piece.
- Submissions must have been created or made within the last two years, and work should be your own.
- Music submissions should not exceed ten minutes in length.
- Submit program notes from a concert or performance.
- Art majors, submit announcements of exhibitions in which you have participated.
- Label each image or recording in the following manner:
 - The title of the work, if any.
 - The approximate dimensions (artwork).
 - The approximate date the work was created.
 - The media used to create the work.
 - A brief description of the work, possibly your motivation or reason for creating the work or performing the piece.

Proof of Registration

Applicants must submit their **Spring 2021** course registration as soon as it becomes available. This may be submitted separately after the deadline. A copy of your Spring 2021 class schedule/registration will suffice.

Photograph

Upload **a high resolution, color portrait photograph** to your online application form. Please do not use photographs with other persons in the picture. This photograph will be used in our program book and on our website if you are selected.

Additional Information

Applicants may be requested to provide additional information during the evaluation process. This may include, but is not limited to, interviews, additional questions, or verification of submitted materials.

SUBMISSION AND APPLICATION DEADLINE

The application must be submitted online by midnight on **Sunday, January 31, 2021**.

AWARDS DISTRIBUTION

Awards will be given to the recipients at the Foundation's Awards Ceremony and Gala at the Hilton Chicago on **June 19, 2021**. In order to receive the award, recipients **must** attend the Awards Ceremony in person (unless COVID restrictions prevent us from gathering in person).

The awards are granted regardless of other scholarships the applicant may have received from other institutions. The same student may not be granted an award more than once by the Foundation.

AUTHORIZED USE OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The monetary award received by the recipient shall be used solely to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, computers, health insurance, study abroad, or other college related expenses.

The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation may demand return of the scholarship award in the event the funds are not used for educational purposes or the student discontinues his/her undergraduate studies at an accredited university in the U.S.

CONTACT INFORMATION

APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY STUDENTS, NOT PARENTS.

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