

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.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY

University/College Students: Full time 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 2018** as full-time 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 U.S.
- Students from West Point, the Naval Academy, and other U.S. military academies are eligible to apply.

ELIGIBILITY LIMITATIONS

- High school senior students with a projected graduation date in 2019 are not eligible to apply.
- Undergraduate students graduating in Fall 2018 are not eligible to apply.
- Students with a cumulative GPA of less than 3.5 are not eligible to apply.
- The Awards are not available to graduate or post-graduate students.
- Students pursuing their degrees online are not eligible to apply.
- Only one applicant per family is permitted to apply for a scholarship each year.
- 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 2016-2017</u> (must be less than)
1	\$36,000
2	\$49,000
3	\$62,000
4	\$73,000
5	\$88,000
6	\$99,000
7	\$114,000
8	\$127,000
Each additional	\$13,000

The PanHellenic uses your **Student Aid Report** from your **online FAFSA** account to verify and determine financial need as well as a signed copy of your family/household **IRS Form 1040** for the year **2017**. Please see the document labelled “**Instructions for Retrieving your Student Aid Report (SAR)**.”

Additionally, all applicants must submit a completed and signed **IRS Form 4506T directly to the IRS** (please see attached pre-filled form) for verification of your **Form 1040** for **2017**. Applicants must also submit a copy of their completed Form 4506T with their scholarship application. Note that the **IRS Form 1040 and IRS Form 4506T** must be signed by both parents in the case of a joint tax return and by the head of the household in the case of a single parent household. Additional financial information may be requested, if needed.

All financial information remains confidential.

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 considered for the \$2,500 award.

ACADEMIC LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Two academic letters of recommendation are required for all applicants. Letters must be prepared by teachers, professors, or instructors. Recommenders must prepare a recommendation letter which specifically addresses your scholastic performance. 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. 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. The Foundation will not accept two letters from two instructors who co-taught a class together.

An Academic Letter of Recommendation Form (available on our website) must be attached to each Academic Letter of Recommendation. Letters must be mailed or emailed by the recommenders directly to the Foundation. Emails should be sent to applications@panhellenicsf.org. Letters must be postmarked no later than the deadline. All recommendation letters must be submitted on departmental or school stationery in direct reference to the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation, and be dated within six months of the application deadline.

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

PERSONAL LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Two personal reference letters are required for all applicants. Letters must be written by individuals who can provide insight into the applicant's personality and overall character. These individuals may include priests, current or previous employers, or other members of the community or professional organizations. It is recommended that your personal letters come from those who can speak to your achievements and participation in extracurricular activities or those who can speak to your achievements, work, work ethic, etc. at a place of employment.

Each Personal Letter of Reference must have attached the Personal Letter of Reference Form (available on our website). Letters must be mailed or emailed by the writers directly to the Foundation. Emails should be sent to applications@panhellenicsf.org. Letters must be postmarked no later than the deadline. All letters must be dated within six months of the application deadline.

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

Please DO NOT send more than two (2) Personal Letters of References.

TRANSCRIPTS

Applicants must submit official transcripts from the institution that they currently attend, as well from any college/university previously attended. Official transcripts must be sent directly to the Foundation from the issuing academic institution in a sealed envelope and postmarked no later than the deadline. Electronic delivery of official transcripts is preferred and may be uploaded to the application or sent via email directly from the school to applications@panhellenicsf.org.

All college freshmen must submit 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 submit university transcripts.

All transcripts must be sent by the issuing academic institution directly to the Foundation via mail or email no later than the deadline. Certified or electronically signed copies may be uploaded directly to your online application.

Your Transcript MUST have your Fall 2018 grades.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Proof of Registration

Applicants must submit their **Spring 2019** course registration as soon as it becomes available. This may be submitted separately after the deadline. A copy of your Spring 2019 class schedule/registration will suffice.

Short Biography

Submit a short biography up to 60 words on your online application form. Include your major, career goals, special interests, achievements, and any scholastic honors or distinctions received. This text will be used in our program book and on our website if you are selected.

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.

SUBMISSION AND APPLICATION DEADLINE

The application must be submitted online by midnight on **Wednesday, January 31, 2019**.

AWARDS DISTRIBUTION

Awards will be given to the recipients at the Foundation's Awards Ceremony and Gala at the Hilton Chicago on **June 15, 2019**. In order to receive the award, recipients **must** attend the Awards Ceremony 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

It is our policy to only discuss application related questions or issues with applicants **not parents**.

Peter Korbakes
Director of Scholarships
PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
17 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 600
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Phone: (312) 357-6432
Fax: (312) 357-0527
Email: pkorbakes@panhellenicsf.org
Website: www.panhellenicsf.org