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Kennesaw State University is proud to offer a variety of scholarships to incoming freshmen, currently enrolled students and transfer students.

## **The KSU Foundation Scholarships**

Established by private donors and awarded each year to students with excellent academic achievement and/or those students with financial need. Scholarships are financial awards given to students who represent the high standards of Kennesaw State University.

## **Merit Based Scholarships**

Awarded based on academic achievement, potential, leadership skills, extracurricular activities, community service and individual scholarship criteria regardless of financial need.

## **Need Based Scholarships**

Awarded to students who demonstrate financial need. Additional requirements such as leadership skills, community involvement and individual scholarship criteria will also be considered.

## **Important Dates and Deadlines**

The scholarship application for each academic year will be available November 1<sup>st</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Before beginning the application**

- Do a category search in the *Scholarship Search* link for any scholarships and their requirements for which you meet the criteria.
- Have all applicable information ready: extra-curricular activities, volunteer information and emails for letters of recommendation, if needed.
- Before writing your essays review the tips in the *FAQ* link.  
\*Your writing skills will be a part of the evaluation process. Check your essays for spelling and grammatical errors before submitting.
- If awarded a scholarship you will be notified by email. All correspondence and notification of awards will be done through your KSU email account only.

**To get started, go to your Owl Express homepage  
then continue to the Financial Aid menu.**

# OFFICE OF SCHOLARSHIPS FAQ'S

## **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

### **When can I apply for scholarships?**

The application process is open from November 1st through March 1<sup>st</sup> for the following academic year.

### **Do I need to submit more than one application if there is more than one scholarship I may qualify for?**

Only one application is required. Although some questions on the application are optional, it is strongly suggested that students fill out all questions in order to match as many scholarships as possible.

### **How do I apply for KSU scholarships?**

Students can apply at: <http://scholarships.kennesaw.edu/>

The application can also be accessed through Owl Express using the link located on the Financial Aid tab.

### **Do I have to be currently enrolled to apply for a scholarship?**

Not necessarily, but you must be admitted and have an established Owl Express account.

### **When can I expect to receive funds if I am awarded a scholarship?**

Financial aid is disbursed on the final payment deadline for each semester. Half of the funds are applied in fall and half in spring to your student account towards institutional charges. Any excess funds after all charges are paid, will be refunded on your Higher One account. The [HOPE Scholarship](#), [Student Loans](#), [Pell Grant](#), [Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant \(SEOG\)](#), and scholarship money are applied to institutional charges (tuition and fees) and any excess financial aid will be refunded to the student.

### **I received a scholarship last year. Must I reapply for the same scholarship or will it be renewed automatically?**

If a scholarship is renewable, it will be noted in the criteria. Most scholarships require you to reapply each year.

### **Who reviews my scholarship application once I submit it?**

Applications are reviewed by the committees responsible for awarding the scholarship and are made up of deans, faculty, staff, and community leaders.

### **When and how will I be notified if I am selected as a scholarship recipient?**

The Office of Scholarships will notify students by e-mail to their KSU student e-mail address if they were selected as a scholarship recipient. Notifications of awards will be sent beginning in May. However, some award notifications will continue to be sent as late as August. Awards will also be listed on [Owl Express](#).

### **How can I use my scholarship money?**

Kennesaw State University scholarships are awarded for educational expenses such as: tuition, fees, housing, books, supplies, and transportation.

### **Can I apply for and receive a scholarship in addition to the HOPE Scholarship?**

Yes.

## **FINANCIAL AID QUESTIONS**

### **What is a Need-Based Scholarship?**

Applicants must demonstrate need to be considered for these scholarships. Need-Based Scholarships require that a student complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to have their need determined by the Department of Education (DOE). Need is determined by subtracting the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) from the Cost of Attendance (COA).  $COA - EFC = \text{Need}$ .

### **How is my financial need determined and who is responsible for making that determination?**

Financial need is determined by subtracting the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) from the Cost of Attendance (COA). The federal government determines your EFC based on information obtained from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and tax returns. The COA estimate includes tuition, fees, room and board, books, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses. COA figures are calculated by individual institutions and approved by the Board of Regents.

### **When must I have my FAFSA filed?**

Applicants must complete their FAFSA any time after January 1 each year. KSU recommends applicants file as early as possible.

It is recommended and preferable that you complete your tax returns prior to filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) However, you do have the option of estimating your information on the FAFSA. Please be advised that estimating your tax information on the FAFSA can slow the process down and may result in your file being chosen for verification.

## **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

### **What are the criteria for full and part-time enrollment?**

- Full-time enrollment is 12 hours minimum undergraduate and 9 hours graduate
- Part-time enrollment is 6 hours minimum undergraduate and 5 hours graduate

### **If I am graduating in fall can I receive the full amount of my scholarship award for fall?**

If you are graduating in fall you may request the entire amount of your scholarship for fall no later than November 1st by submitting the following to our office:

- A short, written request
- A copy of the approved petition to graduate

\*Please note that all requests are subject to approval by donor and/or Committee.

### **Do I have to reapply each year if I have a renewable scholarship?**

Yes. Awards do not automatically renew. A new online application must be submitted each academic year. Failure to submit a renewal application by the applicable renewal date cancels the student's renewal status.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

Many KSU scholarships require community service participation. Listed are a few of the volunteering opportunities available in the local area.

### **Must Ministries**

<http://www.mustministries.org/index.aspx>  
Phone: 770-427-9862

### **KSU's Holocaust Exhibit**

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/historymuseum/becomeavolunteer.shtml>  
Phone: 770-420-4432

### **Senior Services North Fulton, Inc.**

email [info@ssnorthfulton.org](mailto:info@ssnorthfulton.org)  
Phone : 770-993-1906

### **Volunteer Match**

Assess individuals by matching the individual to the local volunteering opportunities.  
<http://www.volunteermatch.org>

### **North Fulton Community Charities**

[www.nfcchelp.org](http://www.nfcchelp.org)  
Phone: 770-640-0399, x210 or x215

### **United Way**

<https://www.unitedway.org/>  
Phone: 770-772-3184 or 770-772-3181

### **Canine Assistants**

[www.canineassistants.org](http://www.canineassistants.org)  
Phone:770-664-7178

### **The Drake House**

[www.thedrakehouse.org](http://www.thedrakehouse.org)  
Phone: 770-587-4712 x303

## **Outside Scholarship Resources**

An outside scholarship is any scholarship not awarded by the government or the school, such as a scholarship provided by a private sector company, philanthropist or foundation. Outside scholarships are considered resources, meaning that they reduce your financial aid package dollar for dollar.

Before you begin your search, we recommend that you review information from the [U.S. Dept. of Education\(link is external\)](#) and the [Federal Trade Commission\(link is external\)](#) on avoiding financial aid scams.

Kennesaw State University does not endorse any private scholarship search sites.

**Cappex-** <https://www.cappex.com/>

**CollegeBoard.com-** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

**CollegeNET-** <https://www.collegenet.com/elect/app/app>

**Federal Student Aid-** <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships>

**Fastweb-** <https://www.fastweb.com/>

**FindTuition.com-** <http://www.findtuition.com/tp2/ft/home.do>

**Petersons.com-** <http://www.petersons.com/college-search/scholarship-search.aspx>

**SallieMae-** <https://www.salliemae.com/college-planning/college-scholarships/>

**ScholarshipMonkey.com-** <http://www.scholarshipmonkey.com/>

**Scholarships.com-** <https://www.scholarships.com/scholarship-search>

**Unigo-** <https://www.unigo.com/>

## **Beware of Scholarship and Financial Aid Scams**

Familiarize yourself with the warning signs for scholarship and financial aid scams. They're easier than you think to spot! Here are some scholarship scam warning signs you should be aware of:

**Fees:** True scholarships are there to aid you, not the other way around so never pay to apply for scholarships or financial aid.

**Guarantees you'll win:** Legitimate scholarship sponsors will never guarantee that you'll win. If an offer is guaranteed, it's exactly as it seems: too good to be true.

**You're already a winner!** You didn't apply, yet you've won. Legitimate scholarship offers are those you need to put effort into winning through the application process – you aren't just awarded money for no reason.

**Personal information requests:** A legitimate scholarship sponsor will never request personal information that you shouldn't be giving out, like your social security number. If you're ever uncomfortable with the type of information requested, it's likely not a legitimate offer.

**Missing sponsor information:** When a scholarship sponsor is legitimate, you will always be able to access their contact information in some form. If it seems like a "don't call us, we'll call you" type of situation, look at it as a red flag for a scam.

There are several additional reputable online resources that list scholarship scam guidelines and information. Utilize them to familiarize yourself with the warning signs so that you don't fall prey to student scams.

**Federal Trade Commission Scam Guidelines-** <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0082-scholarship-and-financial-aid-scams>

**Federal Student Aid: Avoiding Scams-** <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/scams>

**FinAids's Scholarship Scam Signs-** <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/scams.phtml>

**Fastweb's Scholarship Scam Red Flags-** <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships/articles/scholarship-scam-red-flags>