2021 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
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Program Overview

Who is eligible to apply?
Eligibility varies by scholarship. To review all of the scholarship opportunities and the eligibility criteria, click here.

When is the application deadline?
February 5, 2021 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time Zone

When is the recommendation deadline?
February 5, 2021 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time Zone

What is the Program timeline?
- Application Open: December 16, 2020
- Application Deadline: February 5, 2021
- Recommendation Deadline: February 5, 2021
- Notification of Selection Results: end of April 2021
- Funds Disbursed: mid-July 2021

Is this award renewable?
Some scholarships are renewable, but not all. Click here to review all of the scholarship opportunities and the renewal details.

How are recipients selected?
Selections are made by the Community Foundation Santa Cruz County’s scholarship committee and approved by the Foundation’s Board of Directors, based on the criteria outlined for each scholarship. Click here to review all of the scholarship opportunities and the eligibility criteria.

Required Documents

Does my transcript have to be official?
Unofficial transcripts are acceptable if they show the following:
- Your name
- Full academic history at that school. A grade report will not be sufficient.

Most unofficial transcripts may be accessed through your school’s online student portal. These pages must still be converted to one of the acceptable file formats. Remember, unofficial transcripts must contain your name.

Should I submit all of my information before I request a recommendation letter?
You should request your recommendation letter as early as possible to ensure there is sufficient time for the recommendation to be submitted by the deadline. You do not have to wait until all
other portions of your application are complete before requesting your recommendation. Select ‘Save’ on the application form to save your progress and return to it at a later date.

What supporting documentation is required for this application?

- **High School Transcript**: Incoming College Freshmen and Sophomores.
- **College/University Transcript**: Incoming College Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors only.
- **2021-21 FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR)**: All applicants
- **Letter of Recommendation**: All applicants

*UPDATE: ACT/SAT Test Scores will not be used this year to determine eligibility due to the difficulties posed by Covid-19 and the local fires.

Where and when should I send my supporting documents?

All required supporting documents must be uploaded directly to your online application by the application deadline (February 5, 2021). Documents that meet the criteria required for this application that are uploaded by the deadline will be processed and considered on time.

What should be visible on my documents?

All uploaded documents must show your name. If you are using an online portal to access your required documentation and all that is visible is the salutation and your first name (Example: Welcome Joe!), this will meet the name requirement.

How long does it take to process my uploaded documents?

If your document was uploaded prior to the deadline, it will be processed. It is your responsibility to ensure your document has been successfully submitted. You will receive a verification email after completing your application and hitting the ‘Submit’ button. If additional materials are needed, you will be asked to add them to your application when you hit the ‘Submit’ button and prompted to hit ‘Submit’ again once the materials have been added.

Notifications

How will I be notified about the status of my application?

Notifications are sent primarily via email to the email you used to create your account. Ultimately, it is your responsibility as the applicant to verify your application status by checking your **Student Portal**.

What notifications will be sent to me?

- **Selection Results**: Selection results notifications are sent to ALL applicants.
- **Renewal Instructions**: If awarded a renewable award, you will be sent a notification when it is time to renew your award.
- **Funds Disbursed**: Once your funds have been issued, you will be notified via e-mail.
Application Status

How do I know if my application is Complete?
Your application status will show as "Submitted" in your Student Portal under the Active Requests tab on your Dashboard. You will also receive a notification email to the email address that you entered on your application verifying your application submission.

As the applicant, what are my responsibilities?
It is your responsibility to make sure your application is Submitted and that all information is true. Your online application form must be submitted, all required documents uploaded, and all required supplements (if requested) added before February 5, 2021 at 11:59 PM Pacific Standard Time Zone.

Award Details

What are the selection criteria?
The Foundation’s Scholarship Committee will evaluate the applications and select recipients based on the criteria outlined for each scholarship. Some awards allow for multiple recipients.

What are the details of the award?
- Award details vary based on the scholarship opportunity. Click here or scroll down to review all of the scholarship opportunities and the award details.
- Scholarship awards can be used towards tuition, fees, books, supplies required for course work, room and board and other related expenses at accredited institutions. These institutions include: two-year colleges, four-year colleges, vocational schools, technical schools.

What are my responsibilities if I am chosen as a recipient?
Click here or scroll down to review all of the scholarship opportunities and the award details and recipient responsibilities.

What are the details of the award?
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- Scholarship awards can be used towards tuition, fees, books, supplies required for course work, room and board and other related expenses at accredited institutions. These institutions include: two-year colleges, four-year colleges, vocational schools, technical schools.

What are my responsibilities if I am chosen as a recipient?
To review all of the scholarship opportunities and the award details and recipient responsibilities, scroll down to the bottom of this document.
How and when are funds issued?
Your funds will be issued via one (1) check in mid-July, payable to you. The check will be mailed to your home address, NOT to your school or institution. You will receive an email notification once your funds have been issued.

How do I change my college choice?
If the colleges you entered on your application as your first or second choice change, please contact Scholarship Coordinator Katy Souza at ksouza@cfscc.org. Changes in college may affect your eligibility status for certain scholarships.

Are scholarships taxable?
In the United States, scholarship funds used exclusively for the payment of tuition and textbooks are normally not taxable. The scholarship recipient is responsible for taxes, if any, that may be assessed against his or her scholarship award. We recommend consulting a tax adviser for more guidance. You may also consult IRS Publication 970 for additional information.
2021 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Eligibility Requirements

Community Foundation donors have established the following scholarships for Santa Cruz County students. These scholarships are intended to help students with their undergraduate studies or vocational training.

Only one application is needed to apply for any or all of the academic scholarships for which you are eligible.

Scholarship awards are subject to change from year to year. Scholarships may range in amount from $1,000 - $5,000 and include both one-time awards and renewable awards.

Judy Anton Woman of Valor/Lupita Loves to Read Project Scholarship

Eligibility

- Female Latina
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Reside in Live Oak or Watsonville area at the time of application
- Graduates or current graduating seniors of any high school in Santa Cruz County OR a student of Cabrillo College

Award Details

- One award of at least $1,000 which is renewable for up to three additional years based on continued enrollment.
  - Recipient may attend part-time or full-time with no minimum credits required.
  - Enrollment at an accredited college or vocational school.
- Priority will be given to a student whose parents are not eligible for public assistance.
R.H. Beel Memorial Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduating seniors from Santa Cruz High School
- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must demonstrate academic achievement
- Must show history of service activities or volunteer work
- Must demonstrate financial need
  - Applicant must contribute personally to their educational costs

Award Details
- Two awards, renewable for up to three additional years, based on academic performance, continued enrollment and continued personal contribution to educational costs.
  - Award amounts vary based on funding available.
  - Students must enroll full-time at an accredited two- or four-year college or university.
    - At the discretion of the Community Foundation’s Scholarship Committee, scholarships may be awarded to students planning to attend accredited vocational schools located in California and in particular Santa Cruz County.
  - Enrollment must be continuous for the entire academic year.
- Priority will be given to students who do not receive other scholarships.

Ernest V. Cowell Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduates or current graduating seniors of public high schools in the Santa Cruz City Schools District.
  - If there are no qualified applicants, seniors graduating from other high schools in Santa Cruz County may be considered.
- Must demonstrate financial need.

Award Details
- One award will be granted and is not renewable.
  - The award amount will vary based on funding available.
- Recipient must attend a University of California campus in the fall following graduation.
- Recipient may attend part-time or full-time with no minimum credits required.
- Recipient is requested to repay their award as soon as they are able after graduating from college.
Jack DeBord Memorial Fund Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduating seniors from San Lorenzo Valley High School.
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Must demonstrate financial need
- Have participated in a Varsity or Junior Varsity team sport at San Lorenzo Valley High School.
- Must provide two letters of recommendation:
  - One letter from a coach or member of the athletic program at San Lorenzo Valley High School, and
  - One letter of recommendation regarding applicant’s academic performance.

Award Details
- One award of $5,000 will be granted and will be renewable for up to three additional years based on continued enrollment.
- Recipient may attend any accredited community, vocational, or two or four-year college.

Emmett and Elsie Geiser Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduating seniors from Watsonville, Pajaro Valley or Aptos High Schools.
- Have earned at least one letter in an athletic program.
- Financial need is considered but is not required.

Award Details
- One award will be granted per high school and is renewable for up to three additional years based on academic performance and continued enrollment.
  - Must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0.
  - The award amount will vary based on funding available.

Louis J. and Mary Ellen Schultz Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduates or current graduating seniors of any high school in Santa Cruz County.
- Must demonstrate financial need.

Award Details
- The number of awards and award amount will vary based on funding available.
- The award is renewable for up to three years based on continued enrollment.
  - Recipient must enroll full-time at any accredited college, university or vocational school.
Simunovich Family Agriculture Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduates or current graduating seniors of any high school in Santa Cruz County or the Pajaro Valley OR students of Cabrillo College or Hartnell Community College who were residents of Santa Cruz County or the Pajaro Valley at least two years prior to their Cabrillo or Hartnell registration.
- Must plan to study agriculture.

Award Details
- The number of awards will vary based on funding available, award amount will be at least $1,000.
- The award is renewable for up to three years based on academic performance, program of study and continued enrollment.
  - Recipient must enroll at any accredited four-year college/university.
  - Recipient must remain enrolled in the field of agriculture.

Barbara J. Thompson Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduates or current graduating seniors of any accredited high school physically located within the Santa Cruz County School District.
  - Current graduating seniors must have a minimum GPA of 3.0, if applicable.
- Must have participated in three of the following during their high school years:
  - Employment
  - Family Care
  - Community Involvement
  - Volunteer Work
  - Sports
- Must have lived in Santa Cruz County for three of the past four years.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen.

Award Details
- Up to one award will be granted per high school and is not renewable.
  - The award amount will vary based on funding available.
- Recipient may attend an accredited college, university or vocational school.
John L. Turner Scholarship

Eligibility
• Graduating seniors from a public school serving the City of Watsonville.
• Have a minimum GPA of 2.0.
• Must be a U.S. Citizen.
• Must demonstrate financial need.

Award Details
• One award of $1,000 will be awarded and is not renewable.
• Recipient may attend a college, university or vocational school.
• Priority will be given to a student who were involved in activities, worked part-time or assisted with family care while in high school.

The Burton Scholarship

Eligibility
• Graduates or current graduating seniors of any high school in Santa Cruz County.
• Must have minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale for two consecutive years.
• Must be a U.S. Citizen.
• Must demonstrate financial need.

Award Details
• Two awards of $5,000 will be awarded, and are renewable for up to three additional years based on academic achievements and continued financial need.
  o Must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA.
• Recipient must enroll full-time at any accredited two- or four-year college/university.

The Bob and Betsy Darrow Scholarship

Eligibility
• Current graduating seniors of any high school in Santa Cruz County.
• Must have a minimum 2.0 GPA.
• Must demonstrate financial need.

Award Details
• At least $2,000 will be awarded each year. The number of awards and award amounts will vary based on funding available.
• Recipient must enroll full-time at an accredited college, university or vocational school.
Hank Garcia Jr. and Family Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduating seniors from Aptos High School, Monte Vista High School, Pajaro High School, St. Francis High School, or Watsonville High School.
- Must have a minimum 3.5 GPA.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen.
- Must demonstrate financial need.

Award Details
- One award of $2,000 will be awarded per high school and is renewable for up to three additional years based on continued enrollment.
  - If there is no eligible applicant from one school, that award may be allocated to another eligible student from another school.
- Recipients may attend any accredited college, university, or vocational school.

Alpert Sharing Fund Scholarship

Eligibility
- Graduating seniors from Watsonville High School.
- Are in the top 10% of their high school class
- Are members of the first generation of their immediate family to attend college
- Meet the Pell Grant eligibility requirements

Award Details
- Two awards of $6,000 (includes 2x $500 stipend for materials for each semester) will be awarded and is renewable for up to three years.
- Recipient may attend an accredited community college or four-year college.