2018-2019 Texas A&M University Freshman Scholarship Application Special Instructions

Incoming Freshman Scholarship Program
http://scholarships.tamu.edu

The incoming freshman scholarship program encompasses several scholarships awarded by Scholarships & Financial Aid including the Opportunity Award, Terry Foundation Scholarship, Brown Foundation Scholarship, President's Endowed Scholarship, Lechner Scholarship, McFadden Scholarship, Century Scholarship, and President's Achievement Scholarship. Selection criteria include (but are not limited to): high school scholastic record, SAT or ACT scores, extracurricular activities, awards, leadership experiences, and in some cases, evidence of financial need. Awards generally range from $500-$3,000 per year and are available for 1-4 years, dependent upon the individual scholarship. Incoming freshmen for the 2018-2019 academic year can apply online at any time between July 1, 2017 and January 2, 2018.

A complete admission application including all required credentials such as official high school transcripts, application fee, and SAT or ACT test scores must be received by the Office of Admissions by January 2, 2018 to ensure scholarship consideration. Award recipients are notified of their selection status in early 2018.

Application Deadline

The deadline for the ApplyTexas Scholarship Application is January 2, 2018. Documents received after this date will not be considered. All other Texas A&M University committees and non-Texas A&M University committees that use our scholarship application adhere to the same deadline. Due to the volume of applications received, corrections to the application are not permitted once submitted.

Essay Submission

Applicants are required to complete Essay Topics A and B. Essays should be typed or computer generated and should not exceed the space allotted. ONLY the first submission of each essay will be considered. Re-submissions will not be read.

Note About Essays and Formatting

We strongly recommend that you type/compose and SAVE your essay in a different program (like NotePad or MS Word) using a *mono-spaced font* (like Courier), then copy and paste it into the provided text box. Be aware that when you save your text, it will be converted to a mono-spaced font and any formatting you may have done will be lost and may impact what you have written. Similarly, if you attempt to copy and paste any specially formatted text such as a bulleted list of items, the bullet format will be lost.

Be sure to review all text answers and make any necessary revisions before submitting your application.

Supporting Documentation

Scholarship applications are not considered complete until all required supporting documentation is received by Texas A&M University.
Transcripts

An official high school transcript indicating grades from the freshman through junior years and class rank at least through the junior year is required and must be received by the Office of Admissions by the scholarship deadline. *(An official high school transcript is one that contains an embossed high school seal or the original signature of a high school counselor, registrar, or principal.)* Transcripts should be sent directly to the Office of Admissions. Class rank should include rank and number in class. Texas A&M encourages high schools to send transcripts electronically via the Texas Records Exchange System (TREx). Transcripts may also be mailed to:

Freshman Admission Processing  
Texas A&M University  
P.O. Box 30014  
College Station, TX 77842-3014

NOTE: Faxed/emailed high school transcripts are considered unofficial and will not fulfill this requirement.

SAT or ACT Score

An SAT or ACT score including writing component score is required. Test scores must be reported prior to January 2, 2018 for scholarship consideration. Texas A&M University considers the student’s highest, one-day test score regardless of how many times the test has been taken. The University does not combine the highest separate math and critical reading/verbal from different test dates. When registering to take these tests, you should request that the testing agency to send the scores to Texas A&M University. The TAMU SAT code is 6003; the TAMU ACT code is 4198.

Resumes

Resumes will not be considered for scholarship selection. Please enter activities in PRIORITY ORDER on the ApplyTexas application. Priority should be given to those activities/awards that applicants have been involved in over four years of high school or those in which applicants have had significant leadership positions. Specific scholarships may require supporting documentation such as a letter of recommendation or proof of eligibility. Unless specifically requested, do not submit letters of recommendation.

Scholarship Program Details

Once submitted, your scholarship application is considered by Scholarships & Financial Aid, the Corps of Cadets, many academic colleges and departments across campus, and other University partners. For additional information on how the scholarship application is utilized, please see the following link: [https://sfaid.tamu.edu/ScholarshipsContact/WebPages/ScholarshipsContact/ViewContactInfo.aspx](https://sfaid.tamu.edu/ScholarshipsContact/WebPages/ScholarshipsContact/ViewContactInfo.aspx)

Selection Criteria

Selection criteria for incoming freshman awards vary from scholarship to scholarship and from committee to committee. Some scholarships have very specific criteria while others have more general requirements. For example, some scholarships are awarded only to students who attend a particular high school while others are awarded based on financial need, academic merit, or a combination of the two. Generally, scholarship committees look for students with high SAT or ACT scores, students who graduated in the top of their high school class, and students who are committed to extracurricular and volunteer activities.
Financial Need (FAFSA, ISFAA & TASFA)

In order for the scholarship committees to determine financial need, applicants must complete a financial aid application.

US citizens and Permanent Residents should submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) [https://fafsa.gov/](https://fafsa.gov/).

Students who are not US citizens but are classified as Texas residents may complete the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) [http://financialaid.tamu.edu/Undergraduate](http://financialaid.tamu.edu/Undergraduate).

The priority deadline for the FAFSA and TASFA is March 15, 2018. Texas A&M suggests that you seek to submit yours by December 15, 2017 to maximize award opportunities.

International students may submit the International Student Federal Aid Application (ISFAA) at [http://financialaid.tamu.edu/International](http://financialaid.tamu.edu/International). The priority deadline for the ISFAA is May 1, 2018.

By submitting a completed FAFSA, ISFAA, or TASFA (and all requested documentation) you will be considered for federal, state, and institutional aid as eligible.

Notification of Awards

Scholarship funds are extremely limited and highly competitive. Every scholarship committee reviews many applications each year. Unfortunately, many qualified students do not receive awards.

Only scholarship award recipients will receive official notification from the committees. In general, most scholarship committees will make their final decisions and will begin notifying award recipients in early spring. The notification process is usually completed by June 1.

Checklist for Scholarship Applicants

- Have you submitted the ApplyTexas scholarship application online?
- Have you proof-read your application carefully? Remember, no corrections or additions can be made to the scholarship application after submission.
- Have you requested official high school transcript (with class rank) be sent?
- Have you requested SAT or ACT scores (including writing portion scores) be sent to Texas A&M by the testing agency?
- Have you paid the $75 admission application processing fee ($90.00 for international students) or submitted the required documentation for a fee waiver?
You may print this page for your information and records.