

PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS QUALIFICATION CRITERIA 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 \$250,000 to forty (40) recipients selected by the Academic Selection Committee (“Committee”) as follows:

- **Twenty (20) Grant Awards of \$10,000 each** to students that apply on the basis of financial need.
- **Twenty (20) Merit Awards of \$2,500 each** to students that do not apply on the basis of financial need, but as a reward for their academic accomplishments.

All applicants must first meet the Eligibility Requirements below regardless of which of the two Awards they pursue and submit a PanHellenic Scholarship Application (“Application”) to the Foundation.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (All Applicants)

- Applicants must be of Hellenic descent. Applicants must have at least one great grandparent with Hellenic roots.
- Students who have graduated from a state certified high school, or equivalent, and are enrolled as full time students at a university in the U.S. pursuing a four-year bachelor degree. Students who have graduated from a non U.S. high school must have completed 48 credit hours at an accredited university in the U.S.
- Undergraduate full time students who currently attend an accredited university in the U.S., pursuing a four-year bachelor degree.
- Applicants must have a minimum cumulative 3.5 Grade Point Average (“G.P.A.”) on a 4.0 grade scale.
Transcripts on a 5.0 grade scale must be accompanied by a conversion to a 4.0 grade scale, issued by the academic institution. Both documents must be sent by the issuing academic institution directly to the Foundation.
- Applicants must be U.S. Citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents.
- Applicants must have permanent residence in the U.S.
- Applicants must be 26 years of age or younger at the time of application.

FINANCIAL NEED CRITERIA (Grant Award Applicants Only)

To qualify as a financial-need applicant, in addition to the Eligibility Requirements above, the applicant must meet the following income criteria:

<u>Family of</u>	<u>Adjusted Gross Income (less than)</u>
2	\$49,000
3	\$59,000
4	\$69,000
5	\$79,000
6	\$89,000
7	\$99,000

Complete copies of the family/household tax returns for the years 2009 and 2008 must accompany the application. The average adjusted gross income of these two years will apply. All financial information remains confidential.

Note: The eligibility of applicants who are orphaned or both their parents are unemployed shall be evaluated on a case by case basis. In cases of extreme hardship or other circumstances, the Committee may waive the above criteria at its sole discretion.

PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS QUALIFICATION CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES *(continued)*

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION CRITERIA

The following criteria will be given discretionary consideration by the Foundation's Academic Committee:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - High School Rank (where applicable) | - Significance of University Rating |
| - Honors and Awards | - Intended Major |
| - Essay Evaluation | - Handicap Hardship |
| - Extracurricular Activities | |

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The application and all required documentation must be postmarked by **Monday, August 2, 2010**. Failure to have the application and required documentation postmarked by the deadline will disqualify the application.

AWARDS DISTRIBUTION

- 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.
- Awards will be given to the recipients in the fall at the Foundation's annual awards ceremony, at a time and place to be announced.

AUTHORIZED USE OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Award shall be used solely as payment for university educational expenses, such as tuition, room and board and books.

ELIGIBILITY LIMITATIONS

- Undergraduate students who graduate in Spring/Summer 2010 are not eligible to apply for an Award.
- Directors, officers, employees of the Foundation and their immediate families are not eligible to apply for an Award.
- The Awards are not available to home school study applicants.
- The Awards are not available to graduate or post-graduate students.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The application must be postmarked by the deadline and sent to:

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
17 North Wabash Avenue, Ste. 600
Chicago, Illinois 60602

(312) 357-6432, Phone
(312) 357-0527, Fax
info@panhellenicscholarships.org
www.panhellenicscholarships.org

All information provided by the applicants is strictly confidential.

PART B: APPLICANT'S INFORMATION (continued)

Are you or your family a member of a Greek Orthodox Parish? Yes No

If yes, please state: _____
Church Name *City* *State*

PART C: APPLICANT'S ACADEMIC HISTORY

High School: _____

City *State*

Final Cumulative High School Grade Point: (on a scale of 4.0): _____

Rank in high school graduating class: # _____ out of _____ (if applicable)

University: _____

City *State*

In the fall semester 2010, I will be attending as a (select one):
 Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

University credits completed to date: _____

University Grade Point Average to date: _____

Intended Major: _____

Please detail any Greek education received in a formal classroom environment: _____

PART D: DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular, Personal and Volunteer Activities: List your principal extracurricular and community activities. Include any major accomplishments.

Honors and Awards: List any academic distinctions and awards you have received.

Paid Work Experience / Student Income Information: List any job (including summer employment) you have held during the last three years.

Do you contribute to your family’s household expenses? Yes No If yes, please explain:

PART E: LIVING SITUATION AND PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION

What is your current living situation?

- Live with parent(s) Live at a dormitory Live with relatives
 Other (please specify): _____

FEMALE Parent/Guardian Living with Applicant:

- Mother Stepmother Relative who is not foster parent
 State-licensed foster mother No female parent in household Other: _____

Name: _____

Marital Status: Single Married Divorced or Separated Widowed

Place of Birth: _____
City State Zip Country

Address (if different from yours) _____

City State Zip Country

Employer Name: _____

Position: _____

MALE Parent/Guardian Living with Applicant:

- Father Stepfather Relative who is not foster parent
 State-licensed foster father No male parent in household Other: _____

Name: _____

Marital Status: Single Married Divorced or Separated Widowed

Place of Birth: _____
City State Zip Country

Address (if different from yours) _____

City State Zip Country

Employer Name: _____

Position: _____

PART F: CHARACTER REFERENCES

Two letters of character reference are required for all applicants. Two individuals (not relatives), such as priests, current or previous employers or other members in your community, must each prepare and sign a character reference letter. Each letter must be accompanied by the letter of character reference form (p.11), mailed by the author directly to the Foundation and postmarked no later than the deadline.

PART G: RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

Two letters of recommendation are required for all applicants. University professors / high school teachers must prepare and sign a recommendation letter, specifically addressing your scholastic performance. Each letter must be accompanied by the letter of recommendation form (p.12) and must be mailed by the recommender directly to the Foundation and postmarked no later than the deadline.

All recommendation letters must be prepared by educators who are in the position to provide an informed evaluation of your academic performance. Recommendation letters prepared by any other individual such as guidance counselors, academic advisors, principals, etc., will not be accepted and the application will be disqualified.

Freshmen students may obtain one of the two letters of recommendation from a high school teacher.

PART H: TRANSCRIPTS

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.

- High school graduates entering university in the fall semester of 2010 must submit official high school transcripts.
- University students that have completed less than 24 credit hours must submit official university transcripts and official high school transcripts. These students must meet the minimum 3.5 G.P.A. requirement for both high school and university, as both will be taken into consideration.
- University students that have completed 24 or more credit hours must submit official university transcripts only.

Note: Transcripts on a 5.0 grade scale must be accompanied by a conversion to a 4.0 grade scale issued by the academic institution. Both documents must be sent by the issuing academic institution directly to the Foundation.

PART I: ESSAY

Submit a typed essay between 750 – 1000 words that addresses the connection(s) between Hellenic contributions to the world and America today. This essay will be judged by the Foundation's Committee and will be given serious consideration.

In writing the essay, do not limit your focus only on ancient Greece but also refer to the relations between Greece and the U.S. during the 20th – 21st centuries. Review Greek immigration history and its contributions to American society and evaluate the future of the Greek American community in the U.S.

PART J: ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Proof of Registration and Letter of Acceptance

All applicants must submit a copy of their class schedule for the 2010 fall semester as soon as it becomes available (*this may be submitted after the deadline*). Entering freshmen must also submit a copy of the acceptance letter from the university.

Short Biography

Submit a short biography in paragraph format and up to 100 words. Include your major, career goal and any special interests and achievements together with any scholastic honors or distinctions received. This text will be used in our program book if you are selected as one of the recipients. Please refer to our website to view award winner biographies from past years for examples. (www.panhellenicscholarships.org/alumni.php).

Photograph

Submit a small portrait photograph, which will be used in our program book if you are selected as one of the recipients. Please do not send any photocopies or photographs with other persons in the picture. Please refer to our website for examples.

Additionally, submit your Essay, Biography and Photograph (high resolution) via email to info@panhellenicscholarships.org.

PART K: PLEDGE OF AUTHENTICITY, AGREEMENT AND CONSENT

If you are under the age of 18 at the time of this application, you must have a parent/guardian sign the statement below.

By my/our signature on this form I/we pledge that:

- The statements made and circumstances represented throughout the entire PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation application are truthful to the best of my/our knowledge.
- The essays accompanying this application are substantively the applicant’s own work, although they may have been reviewed by parents, teachers or other advocates.
- All of the financial information I/we have provided is complete and accurate.

By my/our signature on this form we understand and agree that:

- The information submitted in this application will be reviewed by the independent Academic Selection Committee of the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation for the purposes of selection.
- During the selection process, the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation staff may contact school officials to confirm information provided by the applicant.
- All financial information is subject to verification by the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation staff. If requested, additional information and other documents will be provided.
- It is my responsibility to ensure that all required documentation that is sent directly to the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation, such as character reference letters, recommendation letters and transcripts, have been received by the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation.
- If the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation finds information provided in this application to be false or inaccurate, it is sufficient cause for rejection or dismissal from the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation program.
- The PanHellenic Scholarship Application, including but not limited to eligibility requirements and obligations, is subject to change at the discretion of the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation.
- The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation may demand return of the scholarship award in the event the funds are not used for educational purposes as stated in this document or the student discontinues his/her undergraduate studies in an accredited university in the U.S.
- Selection of the award recipients is made by the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation's independent Academic Selection Committee and its decision is final.
- Availability of scholarship funds is subject to change at the sole discretion of the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation.

By my/our signature on this form:

- I, the undersigned student, irrevocably give the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation the right to (1) share all personal information that I have provided with this application and (2) use my name and photograph for any program or PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation purpose. The above shall be subject to public dissemination by any media or other form of release. Income Tax Returns are excluded unless so ordered by a court of law or government agency.
- I hereby authorize access to, and release of, information to the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation regarding my application, such as academic records and/or financial records necessary to verify my eligibility for scholarship consideration.
- If I am selected as a PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation award recipient, I will, upon the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation’s request, sign additional releases in form and substance acceptable to PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation.
- If I am selected as a PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation award recipient, I agree to become a member of the PanHellenic Honors Society and cooperate with the Foundation to achieve its goals within the spirit of its mission.

APPLICANT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ***What is considered a complete application?***

A complete application will include:

- Scholarship application completed and signed by applicant and/or parent/guardian
- Essay
- Two character reference letters (*mailed separately*)
- Two letters of recommendation (*mailed separately*)
- Official transcripts (*mailed separately*)
- Letter of acceptance (*for entering freshmen*)
- Proof of registration (*this may be submitted as soon as it becomes available – does not have to meet the deadline*)
- Income taxes returns (*if applicable*)
- Short biography
- Photograph

- ***Can I apply for more than one PanHellenic Scholarship Award?***

The same student cannot be awarded a PanHellenic Scholarship Award more than once.

- ***What is a family of two?***

A family of two is one parent and one child.

- ***What is a family of three?***

A family of three is one parent and two children or two parents and one child.

- ***My G.P.A. is 3.5. Am I eligible to apply as a financial need candidate?***

All applicants with a minimum G.P.A. of 3.5 that meet the financial need income criteria (page 1) are eligible to apply for the \$10,000 Grant Award.

- ***My G.P.A. is 3.5. but I do not qualify for financial need. Am I eligible to apply for a PanHellenic Award?***

All applicants with a minimum G.P.A. of 3.5 that do not qualify for financial need are eligible to apply based on their scholastic achievements for the \$2,500 Merit Award.

- ***I graduated a non-U.S. high school and I will attend an accredited university in the U.S. Am I eligible to apply?***

You must be a U.S. Citizen or U.S. Permanent Resident and you must first have completed 48 credit hours at an accredited university in the U.S. in order to apply.

- ***I am U.S. Citizen or U.S. Permanent Resident. I am applying as a financial need candidate. My parents do not live in the U.S. but in another country. How do they report their income?***

Copies of original Income Tax Returns for the previous two years must be submitted accompanied by conversion to an equivalent U.S. Income Tax Return prepared by a U.S. tax accountant.

- ***Where do I submit my application?***

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
17 North Wabash Avenue, Ste. 600
Chicago, Illinois 60602

- ***When will I be notified?***

All applicants will be notified by mail in October 2010.

- ***If I am selected as a recipient do I have to attend the Awards Ceremony?***

If you are selected to receive an award, you do not need to be present at the ceremony. The PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation will accept the award on your behalf and forward it to you.

- ***If I am selected as a recipient and I attend the Awards Ceremony, who covers my expenses?***

Your attendance to the ceremony and gala dinner is complimentary but all your other expenses, such as airfare and hotel, are your responsibility.

CHECKLIST
(for Applicant's use only)

Please review and check each item before you submit your application:

- I read the Qualification Criteria and Guidelines and I am eligible to apply.
- I completed Part A: Scholarship Awards.
- I completed Part B: Applicant's Information.
- I completed Part C: Applicant's Academic History.
- I completed Part D: Development Activities.
- I completed Part E: Living Situation and Parent/Guardian Information.
- I have requested character reference letters from two (2) persons. Each letter must be accompanied by the letter of character reference form (p.11), mailed by the author directly to the Foundation and postmarked no later than the deadline.
- I have requested two (2) recommendation letters from professors/high school teachers. Each letter must be accompanied by the letter of recommendation form (p.12) and must be mailed by the recommender directly to the Foundation and postmarked no later than the deadline.
- I have ordered my official transcripts (see page 7, Part H) to be sent directly to the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation by the issuing academic institution postmarked no later than the deadline.
- I have submitted my essay with my application.
- I have submitted my proof of registration and letter of acceptance (entering freshmen).
- I have submitted my short biography with my application.
- I have submitted my portrait photograph with my application.
- I have signed and dated Part K: Pledge of Authenticity, Agreement and Consent.
- I sent my Essay, Biography and Photograph (high resolution) via email to info@panhellenicscholarships.org.

***Missing any of the above items will result in an incomplete package
and your application will be disqualified in its entirety.***

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
17 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 600
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Letter of Character Reference Form

This form must accompany your letter of character reference. Please mail this form and your signed letter directly to the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation at the address shown above postmarked no later than August 2, 2010. Please be advised that reference letters from relatives will not be accepted.

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Letter provided for (Applicant's full name): _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
17 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 600
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Letter of Recommendation Form

This form must accompany your letter of recommendation. Please mail this form and your signed letter directly to the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation at the address shown above postmarked no later than August 2, 2010.

Please be advised that all recommendation letters must be prepared by instructors that have had the opportunity to evaluate the applicant as a student. Recommendation letters prepared by any other individual such as guidance counselors, academic advisors, principals, etc., will not be accepted.

Full Name: _____

Title: _____

Office Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Letter provided for (Applicant's full name): _____