



# **SCHOLARSHIP**

## Guidelines & FAQs

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# PANOLA COLLEGE

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

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- Complete the application.
- Return the application to the Institutional Advancement Office no later than **the deadline listed at <http://www.panola.edu/financial-aid/endowed-application-guidelines.html>**
- Transcripts - HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, TRANSFER and 1st TIME PANOLA COLLEGE STUDENTS: Submit a transcript/GED certificate. Your application will be incomplete and not considered if your transcript/GED certificate is not received by the application deadline.
- Please submit a brief essay of the reasons you are applying for a scholarship.
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) – Many scholarships require financial need. Complete and submit the FAFSA at: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) as soon as possible since it takes a few weeks before it is received by Panola College. Your application is not considered complete until the FAFSA is submitted and received by the Panola College Financial Aid department.
- Selection and awarding of the scholarships will take place on or before Panola College graduation in the fall and spring semesters.
- All scholarship applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Committee of three (or more) faculty and staff.
- All applicants will be judged on scholarly achievement, extracurricular activities, essay summary and financial need.
- If selected to receive a scholarship, the recipient must also fill out a “Commitment for Endowed Scholarship” form in the Institutional Advancement Office and write a thank you letter to the scholarship donor before the scholarship can go into effect. Recipient must fulfill all requirements for his/her scholarship or forfeit all benefits of the scholarship.
- If you have questions, please call 903-693-2029 or email [dyates@panola.edu](mailto:dyates@panola.edu).

## *Scholarship Application Frequently Asked Questions*

**Who may apply?** Students graduating from high school, currently enrolled college students, former college students, or first time in college students may apply for scholarships.

### **How to apply?**

- 1.) Obtain a Panola College Scholarship Application online at <http://www.panola.edu/financial-aid/endowed-application-guidelines.html>. Make sure that all sections are complete. Write legibly on the application. Be sure to type and attach answers to the short essay question. Sign and date the application.
- 2.) If you have not already done so, submit the Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is used to determine financial need for Scholarships. We recommend you apply online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for fastest results.

**Where do I send the application?** Completed Panola College Scholarship Applications, along with personal information and short essays, must be submitted to the Office of Institutional Advancement. Application may be submitted by mail, email, or in-person. The contact information is located at the bottom of the application.

**What is the deadline?** The deadline for fall is the last working day of March. Applications must be received by this date. Postmarked dates are not accepted.

**What is the amount of a scholarship?** Amounts vary according to the interests of the scholarship donors. All scholarships are reported to the Panola College Financial Aid Office.

**Will I be notified if I am awarded a scholarship?** Yes. You will be notified by email if you are awarded a scholarship. If you are offered a scholarship, please read the email notification we send you and follow the directions. We ask you to accept (or decline) the scholarship, write a thank you letter to the donor, and fill out a "Commitment for Endowed Scholarship" form. Once we receive these documents, we will do a final verification of scholarship criteria and send the scholarship to financial aid to post to your student account.

**Is the essay important?** Yes, the essay is very important. Scholarship application essays are reviewed by the selection committee. Your essay should let the committee members know the reason you are applying for a scholarship. Your essay is a significant part of the application.

**What grade point average (GPA) do I have to have to receive a scholarship?** It depends on the scholarship criteria. Most require a 2.0 or greater grade point average.

### **I completed a scholarship application last year. Do I need to submit another one again?**

Yes. If you wish to be considered for a scholarship next academic year, you must complete and submit another application. Only one (1) application per academic year is considered for scholarships.

**Do I have to submit a transcript?** If you are a high school senior, transfer student, or will be a first time student at Panola College, you must submit a transcript, even if you sent your transcript to the college for admission.

**Where do I call if I have a question?** Call the Institutional Advancement Office at (903)693-2029, or email to [dyates@panola.edu](mailto:dyates@panola.edu).