



## The Application Process

### ***Where can I find out what scholarships are available through SUNY Erie Community College?***

A complete list of scholarships (when offered) is available on the SUNY Erie Scholarship [website](#).

### ***Do all scholarships have the same eligibility requirements?***

No. Each scholarship has specific eligibility requirements that were defined by the donor when the scholarship was established. Eligibility requirements are stated for each individual scholarship, so be sure to read the requirements carefully.

### ***How do I apply for a scholarship?***

Once you have a SUNY Erie student email address, please complete the online General Application.

- The General Application should be thought of like a Student Profile. Applicants complete a General Application before applying to specific scholarship opportunities. Submitting a General Application does not mean that an applicant has applied for any scholarships.
- Please answer the questions carefully and thoroughly. Your answers determine your eligibility for all online scholarships at SUNY Erie Community College. If any required questions are not completed, your application will not be considered.
- You may work on your application over a period of time. You must click the "Save and Keep Editing" button at least once every 30 minutes to ensure your work is saved. If you do not click the "Save and Keep Editing" button, the system will time out and all information entered since the last time you clicked on the "Save and Keep Editing" button will be lost.
- Click the 'Finish and Continue' button to submit your completed General Application. If all required questions have been answered, you will see a green button with a checkmark and may proceed to the next step. If you missed a question, you will be prompted to complete it and resubmit your General Application.
- After you complete and submit your General Application, click on "View Opportunities" to review the recommended scholarships that match up with the information included in your submitted General Application. **This does not mean that you are qualified to apply for every scholarship listed as a recommended scholarship.**
- You will note that most recommended scholarships listed have at least one additional question. Before you apply for a specific scholarship, please review the qualifications and any restrictions to ensure that you qualify. You will need to complete the additional questions for each scholarship that you apply for prior to the deadline.

***How much does it cost to apply?***

There is no charge to apply for SUNY Erie scholarship opportunities.

***Can I apply for more than one scholarship?***

Yes. You may apply for as many scholarships as you are eligible for but please carefully read the eligibility requirements of each scholarship for which you are applying.

***What's the deadline for applying?***

The deadlines may vary and are noted on the scholarship application website.

***Can I get an extension if I need one?***

Applications must be completed on time and any additional questions or requirements must be completed by the deadline.

***What types of students are eligible for a scholarship at SUNY Erie?***

You must be a matriculated student in good standing to be eligible. A matriculated student is one who has applied for and been accepted in a specific degree program through the Admissions Office. You can be a new student here for your first semester or a continuing student having already completed a semester or more. Transfer students and re-admits are also eligible. Age does not matter.

**Application Review**

***Who makes the award decisions?***

Each scholarship has its own committee of SUNY Erie faculty/staff/retirees/college community members and others who read and evaluate each application.

***Are scholarships awarded on the basis of merit or financial need?***

It depends on donor intent when the scholarship was created. Scholarships may be based on merit, financial need, program, community service and/or other criteria or combination of two or more of these.

***How does SUNY Erie define financial need?***

When financial need is a factor, we use information as defined in the FAFSA.

**Notification and Awards**

***When will I find out if I've been awarded a scholarship?***

Applicants will be notified by email when they have been selected to receive a scholarship. The offer email will ask the applicant to accept or decline the award.

***What happens if I am selected as a scholarship recipient?***

If you accept the award, you will be required to submit a thank-you letter for the donor of the scholarship you received. You will also be asked for a photo. Your information then goes to Financial Aid for processing.

***What does the “Pending” status mean on my student account?***

“Pending” means that the Foundation has informed the bursar’s office of your scholarship award. This status will remain until scholarship criteria have been confirmed and payment made after grades post.

***Do I need to pay scholarship money back?***

No. Scholarships are charitable grants that do not need to be paid back, provided they are used for the purpose stated in the scholarship award.

***What expenses can the scholarship pay?***

Scholarship awards are disbursed at the end of each semester to your student account and may go to the payment of tuition, fees and books. See award description for further details.

***How large are scholarship awards?***

Amounts vary based on individual scholarship opportunities. Non-book awards start at \$500.00/year and some are worth much more.

***Will a SUNY Erie scholarship give me enough money to pay the whole cost of my college education?***

Typically, no. Scholarships provide partial support; therefore, we encourage you to look into other financial aid resources such as federal grants, loans, and work-study awards. Applicants must complete FAFSA (Pell) & HESC (TAP) applications (F-1 Visa students are an exception – see Financial Aid Office). SUNY Erie will put together a complete financial aid package for you, which may include one or more of these types of support.

***Will I receive a check for my scholarship?***

Typically scholarship money is directed to your student account and applied to your bill at SUNY Erie Community College.

***When will I receive my scholarship funds?***

Scholarship funds are sent directly to the Bursar Office to be applied towards your student account at the end of the semester after grades post. This generally means the end of January and the end of June.

***If I receive a scholarship one year, will I automatically receive an award for the following year?*** Most scholarships are not renewable and you must apply each year. Still, some scholarships are renewable or allow for reapplication. Review the scholarship description for further information.

***I have a question you didn't answer here. What should I do?***

Please contact our scholarship staff: scholarship@ecc.edu or 716-851-1992.