

Asian Education Foundation Scholarship Program

Objectives

The Asian Education Foundation (AEF) established its scholarship program to encourage the study of Asian cultures and languages for American college students of all disciplines. The Foundation supports an integrated educational philosophy that bridges the training of professional skills with an enhanced global perspective and an appreciation of diverse cultures. Students receiving the AEF scholarship will contribute to a world community defined by greater economic and cultural cooperation and will be better prepared for successful careers in a global economy where Asia's presence and influence are profound.

The scholarship will be funded by charitable foundations and corporations, donations from organizations and individuals, membership dues from corporations and individuals, federal grants, and revenues generated from various programs.

The Asian Education Foundation will award undergraduate scholarships on the basis of merit to selected juniors and seniors who intend to pursue study in Asian languages and cultures.

Each scholarship covers eligible expenses for undergraduate tuition, fees, and books, up to a maximum of \$2,000 annually or a maximum of six credits. Junior-level recipients are eligible for a maximum of two years of scholarship support, and senior-level recipients are eligible for a maximum of one year of scholarship support. The AEF might extend the scholarships to first- and second-year college students as well as high school seniors in the future.

In awarding scholarships, the Foundation's Board of Directors will consider the nominee's field of study and career objectives. It will further consider the extent to which that individual has the potential and commitment to significantly advance cross-cultural understanding and cooperation.

Nominees for scholarships must include in their nomination materials statement of interest in a career related to international business, education, the arts, and/or cultural exchange, detailing how their academic program and their overall educational plans will prepare them for their chosen career goal.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a sophomore or junior pursuing a degree at an accredited institution of higher education;
2. Have a college grade-point average of at least 3.0 (or the equivalent).
3. Demonstrate an interest in Asian languages and/or culture
4. Maintain residence in any of the 50 United States.

Nomination Procedures

A college or university must nominate their candidates for scholarships. The Foundation will not solicit or accept applications directly from candidates, but will advise applicants about the appropriate nomination procedures.

The Foundation invites eligible accredited U.S. institutions (or branches of those institutions) to nominate students. Four-year institutions may nominate up to five current sophomores or juniors.

Each participating institution must appoint a faculty representative to serve as liaison between the institution and the Foundation.

The role of the faculty representative is to:

1. Publicize the scholarship program on campus.
2. Establish the process to select his/her institution's best-qualified candidates for nomination.
3. Help nominees prepare for the competition.
4. Ensure that the institution's nominations are complete and submitted online by the stated deadline.

Nomination Materials

Applicants may download the application form from the website at www.asianeducationfoundation.org.

The online application consists of the following:

- 1. Institution Nomination:** This verifies the nominee's eligibility and academic status and formally transmits the nomination to the Scholarship Review Committee. The appointed faculty representative of the nominee's institution must complete and submit the nominee application.
- 2. Nominee Application:** This is the basic document used to consider the nominee for the scholarship. It provides biographical information about the nominee, including his/her academic and/or professional background, interests, and plans. It further provides a statement describing how the student's educational plans will provide preparation for a career in an international, and/or multicultural environment.
- 3. Nominee Essay:** This should convey the student's interest in learning Asian languages and/or cultures.
- 4. Recommendations (3):** These are the references that the student must list in his/her application, along with the e-mail address for each. These must be from faculty members:
 - Two of whom can attest to the nominee's potential for a career; and
 - One of whom is in the nominee's field of study.

Once submitted, the website generates an e-mail to each reference, instructing them how to complete their online recommendation.

Supporting Documents

The applicant must submit the following transcripts, in addition to the nominee's application.

- One from the nominee's current institution, including coursework for the latest semester, trimester, or quarter, if available; and

- Those from other institutions attended.
- One from any secondary school the nominee attended.

Nomination Deadline

The institution's designated faculty representative must submit the completed online scholarship application(s), electronically, by postal mail, or in person, by a specified date.

Note: Nominations not electronically submitted by the application due date will not be considered.

However, faculty representatives may establish an internal deadline for all nominees to complete their applications prior to that date. Faculty representatives must ensure that **all mailed supporting documents are postmarked by the actual due date.**

Selection Procedures

Initial Evaluation

An independent, scholarship review committee appointed by the Foundation will evaluate all valid nominations. The committee then will recommend the most outstanding nominees from each state for consideration by the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The Board will evaluate nominees based on two primary criteria:

- Outstanding academic performance.
- Demonstrated potential for and commitment to a career relevant to international affairs and/or promoting multicultural understanding.

Final Selection

The AEF Board of Directors will choose the recipients from among the candidates recommended by the scholarship review committee.

Payment of Scholarship Awards

The Foundation will pay the scholarship award directly to the institution where the scholarship recipient is enrolled. Payments from the Foundation may supplement, but not duplicate, benefits, including the costs of tuition, fees, books, and room and board for the academic year, from another foundation, institution, or organization. In other words, the benefits from all sources combined may not exceed these costs of scholarship.

The recipient must promptly notify the Foundation of any changes that occur during the year to either or both of the following:

- His/her academic status;
- Information documented in the yearly payment request form.

Duration of Awards

The Foundation intends to support junior-level scholarships for a maximum of two academic years and senior-level scholarships for a maximum of one academic year. Renewal for junior-level recipients must be in accordance with the regulations established by the AEF Board of Directors. An authorized official of the institution will annually review the renewal application to certify that:

- The recipient is a full-time student and is enrolled in a curriculum designed to prepare him/her for a career related to the Foundation's objectives;
- The recipient is not engaged in gainful employment that interferes with his/her studies.
- The recipient is in good academic standing, with a GPA of 3.2 or higher.

Important Dates (TBA)

Scholarship online application and materials are available from the AEF's website (www.asianeducationfoundation.org).

Deadline for online submission of nominee application(s) and all supporting documents for the scholarship awards will be published annually.

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