

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP 2022 - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

All Applicant FAQs

1. I applied for the Opportunity Scholarship via the Regents' and Advanced Course tracks – which do I choose?

You can only qualify for the Opportunity Scholarship once. This means you must choose one track to complete the application. We strongly recommend choosing the Advanced Course track if you qualify under both tracks due to the simplified application process. All students who qualify for the Opportunity Scholarship (under the Regents' and Advanced Course Tracks) will be given the same award consideration and maximum award amount. Please contact the Scholarship Office if you have further questions.

2. What is the award for 2022 high school graduates?

The key parameters are as follows:

- The maximum semester award is \$1,000. Awards are individualized and can be used towards tuition and fees after other state aid is applied.
- A student may receive up to 4 award disbursements, subject to meeting renewal requirements.
- Students have five years from the date of their high school graduation to use the award. Deferments or leaves of absence do not extend the five-year time frame.
- Students who have tuition and fees covered by other state aid can use of the scholarship during a future semester. Below are examples of how the awarding will work.
 - Example 1: Tuition and fees cost \$2000, and you have another state scholarship that covers \$2000 during your first semester. You cannot receive an Opportunity Scholarship award disbursement for your first semester but could receive it later, for example during your second semester. Note: if you do not receive a disbursement you need to remain enrolled at an eligible college/university, but you do not have to meet a minimum GPA and credit hour requirements
 - Example 2: Tuition and fees cost \$1000. You have another scholarship that covers \$700 of your tuition and fees. The Opportunity Scholarship will be used to help cover the remaining \$300. Because you received an award disbursement, you must maintain enrollment in at least 12 credit hours and earn a minimum semester GPA of a 3.0 in order to remain in good standing.

3. What if I have earned the scholarship but have not yet received the funds, and tuition is due?

Although every effort is made to complete the final review and process payments quickly, in some cases you may not receive the award payment until after school has started and tuition deadlines have passed. It is your responsibility to comply with and meet any tuition payment deadlines in such cases.

4. Am I required to submit proof of enrollment or deferment for the Fall 2022 semester?

No. We will verify your enrollment or deferment status directly with your school. Be sure you work with your school early to be sure you submit all required documents by their deadlines. Remember, you must be enrolled in at least 12 credits to be eligible for a semester payment.

5. What do I do if I am not going to be enrolled in school Fall 2022 semester?

If you are not enrolling in an eligible institution for the Fall 2022 semester, you must obtain an approved deferment from an eligible Utah institution. Each institution has a unique deferment process and deadlines, so be sure to contact the school directly for more information.

6. Where can the Opportunity Scholarship be used?

Students who are part of the 2022 high school graduating class can use the scholarship at the following college and universities:
Public Utah Colleges and Universities: Salt Lake Community College, Snow College, Southern Utah University, University of Utah, Utah State University, Utah Tech University (formerly Dixie State University), Utah Valley University, Weber State University.
Utah Private Non Profit Colleges and Universities: Brigham Young University, Ensign College, Westminster College, Western Governors University.

Public Utah Technical Colleges: Students attending a technical college may use their Opportunity Scholarship funds when they transfer to an eligible college above after completing a technical certificate program. Please contact our office if you have questions.

7. When will I know if I qualify for an Opportunity Scholarship?

Due to the high volume of applicants, a final review may take 8-10 weeks to complete once the Scholarship Office has received all your required documents. You will be sent a final notification regarding your eligibility through your student Scholarship Portal (Regents' track applicants) or via email (Advanced Course applicants). In addition, once you have been approved for the scholarship, the college/university you are attending will also need to evaluate your financial aid package to determine if you qualify to receive an award disbursement.

8. What should I do if I have questions?

Send us an email at scholarships@ushe.edu, send a message through your Message Center in your Scholarship account (Regents' track applicants) or call us directly at 801-646-4812 during normal business hours, Monday-Friday. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of information provided by other sources.

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Regents' Track Applicant FAQs

1. When are the documents due for the final review, and how do I know what I need to turn in?

All documents must be submitted (postmarked) by **July 1, 2022**. A checklist of the required documents is provided in your Scholarship account. Late documents are not accepted. Submitting documents that are missing required information may impact your eligibility or cause you to lose consideration for the scholarship.

2. What are the required final documents?

Final high school transcript from which you have graduated.

This transcript needs to reflect all final credits, grades, cumulative GPA and the date of graduation. Schools have irregular summer hours so plan ahead to allow for processing time when requesting your transcripts. This applies to requests to have your transcript sent electronically or mailed. In most cases electronic transcripts are not automatically generated and sent, a school representative must process the request. You are responsible for allowing enough time for the request to be processed.

Official College Transcript(s) are required if you earned college credit for any Math, English, Science, Social Science, or World Language course during grade 12.

Your application is evaluated based on the college credits earned; therefore, you must submit the college transcript even if these classes are included on your high school transcript. College credit may have been earned through early college programs, concurrent enrollment, or distance education even if you never attended class on a college campus.

3. How do I submit the required transcripts?

The preferred method of submitting final transcripts is to have your school (high school or college) send your official transcripts via a secure, electronic transcript exchange system. If you are required to provide an e-mail address for the recipient, use

regentsscholarship@ushe.edu

Official transcripts can also be mailed but may see longer processing time before being added to your final document checklist.

Official high school transcripts that are mailed must be signed and stamped by a school official. Official college transcripts that are mailed must be in a college/university sealed envelope.

Official transcripts cannot be emailed or uploaded by the student. Faxed transcripts are not accepted

4. How long does it take for documents to show received on my checklist after they are sent?

The document checklist is updated as documents are submitted and verified. Verification of documents submitted electronically may take 7-10 business days and could be longer during peak submission times. Mailed documents will take 2-3 weeks to process.

If you choose to mail a document, we recommend certified mail to track the delivery of the documents. Remember to hold on to all receipts or tracking information for documents you send until they are marked as received on your checklist.

Advanced Course Track Applicant FAQ

1. Do I need to submit final documents?

No. We will automatically retrieve your transcript information to verify that you complete the required courses. Be sure to complete any advanced math, language arts, or science courses to meet the scholarship requirements before high school graduation.