

Opportunity Scholarship - 2023 Applicant Information

SCHOLARSHIPS@USHE.EDU

801-646-4812

OPPORTUNITYSCHOLARSHIP.ORG

Students apply for the Opportunity Scholarship during their senior year. To apply, students must submit the online application form.

If at any point you need assistance with your application, call or email our office using the information on this document. DO NOT rely on other sources for information regarding your application.

The information provided when completing the application will allow the scholarship office to retrieve your transcript information automatically (for public school students). If you see an error when submitting the application, you may need to contact the registrar at your high school for help, so please apply early. Students who will graduate from a private high school will need to submit their high school transcript during the application process.

IMPORTANT DATES

APPLICATION PROCESS

Dec 2*

Priority Application Deadline

Feb 1

Final Application Deadline

May 5

Contact us if you have NOT received a notification

*Students who apply by the priority deadline may be given first consideration.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT	HOW TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS
1. ONLINE APPLICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Submit the application form, providing key demographic information.
2. 2023-2024 FAFSA (FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Submit the FAFSA through www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa.Your name, date of birth, and SSN used on the FAFSA must match your scholarship application.The submission date will automatically link into our system if the information provided is correct.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION

1. What is the application process like?

First: Students submit an online application. The scholarship office will use the information provided to automatically gather transcript information for students graduating from a public Utah high school (including enrolled course information) through USBE to verify you meet the academic requirements. Students graduating from a private Utah high school will need to upload their official high school transcript during the application process.

Second: Students are required to complete the 2023/2024 FAFSA. See question 3 below for more information.

Third: Students will receive an update from the Scholarship regarding the outcome of their application. We will notify eligible institutions which students are eligible for an award. Students must enroll or defer through an eligible institution for Fall 2023. Recipients will be notified of their individual award amounts from the college they attend.

2. When is the deadline to apply?

The online application and 2023/2024 FAFSA must be submitted by **February 1, 2023**. You are encouraged to meet the priority deadline by submitting everything by **December 2, 2022**. All required coursework must be completed by the date of high school graduation.

3. I have questions about the FAFSA, are there any resources to help me fill it out?

YES! You can find helpful FAFSA resources on this webpage www.ushe.edu/utah-college-application-week/ or attend a FAFSA night at your high school. We also recommend reviewing www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa or contacting a college's financial aid office for assistance.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION

4. What classes count for the Opportunity Scholarship - advanced course track?

Students must complete 1 advanced (Advanced Placement/AP, Concurrent Enrollment/CE, or International Baccalaureate/IB) course in each of the following areas in grades 9-12: Language Arts, Math, and Science. See www.opportunityscholarship.org for further details about the required courses. Remember, every eligible course will not be offered at your high school. We recommend meeting with your counselor to set a schedule that is best for you.

5. How will the scholarship office communicate with me regarding my application?

We will send all important information to the email address you provide. We strongly recommend not using your high school email address as you will lose access after you graduate. Check your email often and if you have a message from us, take action as soon as possible. Failure to follow up may result in loss of consideration for the scholarship.

6. Am I required to submit my transcripts to apply?

No, if you will graduate from a public high school we will automatically gather enrolled course and transcript information from your high school transcript, including concurrent enrollment courses. If you took out of state coursework or coursework that does not appear on your current high school transcript that you wish to have considered to meet the requirements, please contact our office directly for further instruction.

Yes, if you will graduate from a private Utah high school you will need to submit an official high school transcript. You will be prompted to upload a copy of your transcript during the application process.

7. If I decided to change my class schedule after I submitted my application, will this impact my eligibility?

YES! Changing what classes and/or where you are taking a class is NOT recommended. If you absolutely must change one of your required classes, contact us first to make sure it will not impact your eligibility.

8. How is the award amount determined?

The Opportunity Scholarship can be used for up to four semesters and can help cover the cost of tuition and fees. A maximum semester award amount will be determined in the spring of each year and will be based on available funding and the number of students participating in the program. Each student's award amount may vary based on the cost of tuition and fees and other state aid they have been granted. However, individual awards will not exceed the maximum amount set annually. Information from the student's FAFSA will not be used to determine the award amount that they can receive.

9. Where can I go to learn more about the Opportunity Scholarship?

You can visit our website, www.opportunityscholarship.org or contact our office via email (scholarships@ushe.edu) or via phone (801-646-4812) for more information.