

Why do we charge a scholarship application fee?

Where does the application fee go?

Many scholarships are offered or supported by large corporations and companies that absorb the costs of their scholarship expenses. For non-profits, this is not necessarily possible. The cost of maintaining a dedicated website and the financial oversight that comes with the annual distribution of nearly \$300,000 from over 200 scholarships can be quite daunting. Most organizations offering scholarships do not come anywhere near this number of scholarships in quantity or dollars offered. On average, 6000 students apply for one or more of our scholarships. As much as we would like to be able to offer our scholarships without an application fee, at this time we cannot do so. We are diligently looking at options that will allow us to be application fee free in the future.

However, we offer the following benefits with our current process. All of these apply, **no matter how many scholarships are applied for in the application.**

- Only one application form is required
- Only one transcript is required (and un-official versions are accepted)
- Only one essay is required
- Only two letters of recommendation are required

For an applicant wishing to apply for multiple scholarships across different organizations, the time and costs incurred (charges for official transcripts per application, for instance) well exceed what would be incurred through the ESA Foundation Scholarship process.

Our Pledge

We do not allow our scholarship program to be advertised by or used by companies that charge for scholarship information.

About the ESA Foundation

The Epsilon Sigma Alpha Foundation was established in 1970 with the purpose of promoting continuing education and altruistic activities that make a positive difference in the world. The primary goals of the Foundation are education and leadership. ESAF is an IRS designated 501(c)(3) public foundation serving the world community. The ESAF Board of Directors is a 'working' board and serves, like all appointed persons, without compensation; only the auditing firm is paid. We have a force of over 100 volunteers who review and judge our scholarships. . Learn more about the ESAF here: <http://bit.ly/AboutESAF>

Testimony from a Scholarship Recipient



"I truly appreciate the financial support of the ESA Foundation and hope you know what a difference it makes in my life. Your support will not only help me with tuition, but further my career development opportunities, including attendance at out of state conferences. I promise to continue working hard and your support will help me reach my goals. Thank you." Eric Meyer