



About The Gates Scholarship

The Gates Scholarship (TGS) is a highly selective, last-dollar scholarship for outstanding high school seniors from low-income households. Each year, the scholarship is awarded to exceptional student leaders, with the intent of helping them realize their maximum potential.

Selected Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance to earn a bachelor's degree, that is not already covered by other financial aid and the Student Aid Index, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), or the methodology used by a Scholar's college or university. Costs covered include tuition, fees, books, housing and food, and may include additional personal costs.

TGS also provides Scholars with various online support services designed to help them excel in their degree programs, graduate, and make a successful transition to their chosen careers. These include career services, mentoring, leadership development, wellness, and knowledge building.

Eligibility Requirements

To apply, students must be:

- A high school senior
- Pell-eligible
- A US citizen or permanent resident
- In good academic standing with a minimum cumulative weighted GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent)

Additionally, a student must plan to enroll full-time, in a four-year degree program, at a US accredited, not-for-profit, private or public college or university.

Ideal Candidate

An ideal candidate will have:

- An outstanding academic record in high school (in the top 10% of his/her graduating class)
- Demonstrated leadership ability (e.g., as shown through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities)
- Exceptional personal success skills (e.g., emotional maturity, motivation, perseverance, etc.)

Timeline

Online applications open July 15, 2026. The scholarship cohort will be selected in April 2027, with awards disbursed in the fall.

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| • July 15, 2026 | Application, Phase I opens |
| • September 15, 2026 | Deadline for Application, Phase I |
| • December 1, 2026 | Semi-finalists announced |
| • December 1, 2026 | Application, Phase II opens (Semi-finalists only) |
| • January 15, 2027 | Deadline for Application, Phase II |
| • March 1, 2027 | Finalists announced |
| • March 2027 | Finalists interviewed |
| • April 20, 2027 | Cohort of Scholars announced |
| • Fall 2027 | Financial awards are disbursed |

Funding

Selected Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance that is not already covered by other financial aid and the Student Aid Index (SAI), as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), or the methodology used by a Scholar's college or university.

**Cost of attendance includes tuition, fees, books, housing and food, and may include other personal costs.*

Website: www.thegatesscholarship.org