

Top 21 Frequently Asked Questions about Scholarships

1. Where do I go to apply for PSC Foundation scholarships?

To apply for a PSC Foundation scholarship, go to www.prairiestate.academicworks.com to begin the online application.

2. What are the deadlines to apply for a scholarship?

Awards for Fall 2016 will end November 14

The Foundation will begin accepting applications for Spring 2017 on November 21, 2016.

3. How will I know if I have received an award?

An email notification will be sent to your PSC student email address. If applicable, please follow the instructions in the email.

4. How long does it take to hear regarding a decision?

PSC Foundation awards are made on a “rolling basis,” which means that awards are made until funds are exhausted or the end of the term, whichever comes first. You will receive an email of the status of your application by the end of the semester.

5. Can I get more than one scholarship?

Yes. Based on eligibility, you could receive more than one scholarship. You will be notified via email of the status.

6. How does my award get applied?

Once you have been selected to receive an award, an email will be sent informing you that an “offer” has been made. You must “accept” the offer in order for the award to be applied to your student account. Simply follow the instructions in the email to view the offer.

7. How long does it take for the award to be applied to my student account?

It takes up to five days for the award to be viewable on your student account. Login to your WebAdvisor account and view the award under the ‘Financial Aid’ section.

8. I paid out of pocket, can I get reimbursed?

Yes. If you paid out of pocket for books or tuition, you may be eligible for reimbursement for up to the amount of the scholarship. For example, if you paid \$300 for a textbook and the scholarship award is \$250, you may be reimbursed \$250.

9. I paid out of pocket, how do I get reimbursed?

Submit the original receipt, showing method of payment, amount paid, and the date of the transaction to the PSC Foundation Office, 202 South Halsted Street, Chicago Heights, Room 2143 (Main Building).

10. How do I receive my reimbursement?

Funds approved for reimbursement are applied to the BankMobile card. See the Bursar Office for more information about the refund process.

11. I cannot finish the application in one sitting, can I come back to the application later?

Yes. The online application allows you to save your work and come back later.

12. How many scholarships can I apply for?

You may apply for as many scholarships for which you are eligible.

13. I have a balance from a previous semester, can I apply for a scholarship and have the prior balance paid?

Unfortunately, once the semester has ended, Foundation scholarships cannot be applied to previous balances.

14. Can I use the Foundation scholarship to pay the down payment?

Foundation scholarships should not be considered as down payment. Most scholarships do not cover all costs, so please plan to establish a payment arrangement. See the Business Office to make payment arrangements.

15. What are the qualifications for a Foundation scholarship?

All scholarships have donor specific requirements. However, the standard criteria for eligibility are: 1) enrolled in the current semester in which you are applying and 2) enrolled in a degree or certificate program at Prairie State College, and 3) demonstrate financial need.

16. One of the scholarships requires that I upload an Academic Plan, what is that?

An Academic Plan is a guide for the degree or certificate you will be seeking at Prairie State College. It is completed by an Enrollment Advisor. See the Enrollment and Advising Office to meet with an advisor.

17. How are candidates selected to receive a scholarship?

All applications are evaluated by a committee of internal or external reviewers. Reviewers rank each applicant based on essay quality/content, academic achievement, and household income. The highest ranked applications in the applicant pool receive funding for textbooks and/or tuition.

18. Can I apply for a scholarship each semester?

Yes. Sign into your online application and provide updates to information as needed. Be sure to indicate which semester you are applying for and submit new essays each semester you apply.

19. I am having problems signing up to begin the application process online.

If you are having issues signing up as a new application, try the 'trouble signing in' link provided on the Welcome page at https://prairiestate.academicworks.com/users/sign_up. If you are still having trouble, call the Foundation Office at (708) 709-3631. Remember you must use the

Prairie State email address and meet the requirements for creating a password. (Your password must contain a minimum of 8 characters and include at least one digit, one uppercase letter, and one lowercase letter).

20. Can I get a scholarship if I receive financial aid?

Yes. All Foundation scholarships are based on need. If financial aid does not fully cover the costs of tuition, fees, and books, you may be eligible for a scholarship.

21. Can I receive a scholarship if I don't receive financial aid?

Yes. The Foundation recognizes there is often a gap between a student's Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) and what a student can afford. If you are unsure whether you qualify for financial aid, submit a free FAFSA application (fafsa.gov) and visit the PSC Financial Aid department to discuss additional options.

Got more questions?

Contact the Foundation Office:

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and the Prairie State College Foundation, (708) 709.7918

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