

Scholarship

FAQ



How do I apply for scholarships through Tri-C®?

Apply for College admission and select your major, degree or certificate program at www.tri-c.edu/apply. Next, complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Tri-C's school code is 003040.

Finally, complete our online scholarship application at www.tri-c.edu/applyforscholarships. A personal statement essay is required. Provide an outline of your career goals and accomplishments, and tell us how you plan to use your education to better your life and/or community. Be sure to include your full name and student ID (S-Number) at the beginning or end of your statement.

What is the deadline to apply for scholarships?

Scholarships are awarded on a first-come basis. We recommend that you apply as early as possible, regardless of the term you wish to attend. Priority consideration is given to eligible candidates who apply starting Jan. 1. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. The awarding process for fall and spring semesters continues through Oct. 30, or until funds have been allocated. Competition and completion scholarship deadlines vary. For a complete list, visit www.tri-c.edu/financialaid.

I got a scholarship last year. Do I need to reapply?

Yes, but reapplying is simple. Most of your information from the previous year (e.g., name, address) will auto-populate. Review and update it, if necessary, to ensure consideration for all applicable scholarships.

Do I need to register for a certain number of credit hours to get a scholarship?

No. Since scholarship award amounts are based on enrollment at the time the award is processed, you can get a scholarship even if you have not yet registered. If you indicate that you plan to register full time (12 credit hours), your award may reflect that amount. If you register for fewer than 12 credits, your scholarship can be adjusted, removed or replaced. Unless indicated in the scholarship description, students should register for a minimum of 6 credit hours to receive and maintain eligibility. If a student has not registered by the fourth

week from the start of the semester, their award may be removed and re-awarded to another student.

What scholarships are available?

Tri-C scholarships cover a wide variety of majors and demographics and are based on financial need, merit, employment status or other criteria.

Scholarship categories include, but are not limited to: Veterans, athletics, culinary, health careers, creative arts, public safety, business, accounting, first-generation, study-abroad, STEM, foreign-born, minorities, workforce and development, engineering, criminal justice and law, ineligible for federal/state aid, construction and CMSD alumni.

When will I know if I got a scholarship?

If you are awarded a scholarship, you will get an email informing you that a change has occurred to your financial aid award package. You will also get an email with details about the scholarship and next steps. Scholarship applications are reviewed daily. If the College is unable to award you a scholarship due to criteria, funding or availability, you will get an email after Oct. 31 explaining the status of your application.

Are there scholarships for noncredit programs?

Yes. Tri-C offers many scholarships for its workforce development and training programs. Visit www.tri-c.edu/workforce for more information.

Will getting a scholarship affect my federal financial aid eligibility?

It may, if your financial aid award package is near the maximum allowable cost of attendance (COA). If this is the case, and you qualify for a scholarship, some of your financial aid sources (usually federal loans or work-study) may be reduced to avoid an overaward (exceeding the COA). If this occurs, you will get an email stating a change has occurred to your award package.

Can international students get scholarships?

Yes. Just complete the application for admission (you must be admitted to the College or be a

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currently enrolled student) and the scholarship application. Students can also visit the International Education Financial Aid website at www.iefaf.org or the Smart Student Guide for Studying in the U.S. at www.edupass.org for additional information.

Will outside scholarships affect my financial aid award?

Maybe. If you earn any outside scholarship funds, you must notify the Student Financial Aid & Scholarships Office so that information can be used to calculate your award package. If the additional aid exceeds your COA, an adjustment may be needed. Changes in your award package will trigger an email prompting you to review your award information.

Do you offer scholarships for summer sessions?

Yes. Many scholarships are awarded for the academic year (fall and spring). If funding is still available, summer scholarships may be awarded. Summer awarding begins after summer registration opens.

If my GPA drops, or if I drop classes or withdraw from school, will I lose my scholarship?

It is highly recommended that a student maintains eligibility during the entire time they receive a scholarship. Many scholarships require a student to maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA and half-time enrollment of at least 6 credit hours. You may lose your scholarship for the next immediate semester if eligibility is not met at the end of the current one.

How long will it take my scholarship to apply to my account?

Funds are applied to tuition charges based on a schedule. Visit www.tri-c.edu/financialdates for more information.

Find refund information at www.tri-c.edu/paying-for-college/documents/refundfaq.pdf.

Do you offer tips on applying for additional scholarships?

Yes. Visit www.tri-c.edu/scholarships and scroll down to External Scholarship Opportunities for additional resources and opportunities.

Unfortunately, thousands of students and parents are defrauded by scholarship scams each year. Avoid becoming a victim by remembering a few things:

- You will never have to pay for a scholarship.
- If you receive unsolicited offers to assist you in finding scholarships that seem too good to be true, they probably are.
- Companies that guarantee an award, ask for your Social Security number, bank or credit card account and/or rush you to make a decision may not be reputable.

Visit www.finaid.org to search for scholarship scams and learn how to identify, protect yourself from and report these scams.

I got a scholarship from a company or organization. Where should I have it sent?

Send checks to:

Cuyahoga Community College
Student Accounting
P.O. Box 92928
Cleveland, OH 44194-2928

Do I have to write a thank you letter?

Yes. Without generous contributions from donors who believe in our students, the community and education, Tri-C could not offer assistance to many of its students. These contributions aid in reducing the financial burden many students experience when attempting to start or finish postsecondary education.

A thank you letter expresses your appreciation to the donor and lets them know that their dollars make a difference. Include information about your college and career goals, as well as how the scholarship will help you reach them.

Suggestions for writing an effective thank you letter:

- Check your grammar and spelling — it is, after all, an academic award.
- Use a genuine and sincere tone.
- Show your personality. There is nothing wrong with acknowledging your enthusiasm and excitement about receiving the scholarship.
- Include your S-Number on the letter.
- Submit your typewritten or printed letter in a business format.

If you are unable to upload your letter to the scholarship portal, please email it to financialaid@tri-c.edu.