



## Scholarship Information

### Asian and Pacific Islander Scholarship Fund

#### APIASF Scholarship Program

- The application will be available again in October 2010.
- **Prizes:** APIASF awards scholarships, ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000, to more than 200 first-year college students
- **Eligibility:**
  - Be of Asian and/or Pacific Islander ethnicity as defined by the U.S. Census
  - Be a citizen, national, or legal permanent resident of the United States. Citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau are also eligible to apply
  - Be enrolling in a U.S. accredited college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking, first-year student in the upcoming academic year
  - Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED
  - Must apply for federal financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by February 1
  - Submit one letter of recommendation
- **How to Apply**
  - The APIASF Scholarship Program application must be completed online and submitted electronically once all of the required questions have been answered. You do not have to complete the online application in one sitting. Until you are ready to submit, you may access your application and edit your answers as many times as you like with your login from any computer with internet access.
    1. **Register For An Account.** Your email address will be your user name and you can create your own password.
    2. **Check Your Email.** Once you create an account, you will receive an email from [apiasf@apiasf.org](mailto:apiasf@apiasf.org). This email will contain your verification token number to allow you to verify your email and to provide you further access to the application.

Make sure to add [apiasf@apiasf.org](mailto:apiasf@apiasf.org) to your address book to ensure that emails from APIASF are delivered to your inbox.

3. **Request A Recommender.** You are required to submit one letter of recommendation from an individual who knows you and is familiar with your community service and leadership activities. A teacher, advisor, work supervisor, community service leader, or any other adult familiar with you could serve as a recommender. Recommendations from relatives will not be accepted.

Go to the Request Recommendation section of your application and input your recommender's information. Once you complete this section, your recommender will receive an email from [apiasf@apiasf.org](mailto:apiasf@apiasf.org) requesting a letter of recommendation on your behalf. If your recommender does not receive the email, contact [outreach@apiasf.org](mailto:outreach@apiasf.org).

Make sure to inform your recommender at least 2 full weeks before the deadline that you have selected them to write a letter of recommendation on your behalf and are applying for a scholarship through the APIASF Scholarship Program. Also, tell your recommender to add [apiasf@apiasf.org](mailto:apiasf@apiasf.org) to their address book to ensure that emails from APIASF are delivered to their inbox.

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Due to a technical problem, the recommendation letter must be submitted online by your recommender by January 20th, 2010, 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time. It is your responsibility that your letter of recommendation is submitted on time. **The rest of the application is still due January 18, 2010, 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time.**

Recommenders should describe the applicants community service, leadership skills, financial need, academic accomplishments and future plans. Recommenders should also include how the student and his/her community may benefit, if the student were to receive an APIASF scholarship. (500 word max)

APIASF welcomes and appreciates any additional comments about the applicant that will help the selection committee in the evaluation process. For example, some applicants, due to family economic conditions, must work and will not have much time for service/civic engagement. If this describes the applicant's situation, please elaborate on why he/she is a deserving student.

4. **Submit And Certify Your Application.** The deadline to submit your application for the APIASF Scholarship is January 18, 2010, 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time. Please keep in mind that this is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a federal holiday. Do not wait until the last minute to complete your application.
  5. **Apply For Additional Scholarships.** Once you submit and certify your application, you will be directed to the Additional Scholarships section and provided a list of scholarships that you may be eligible for. It is highly recommended that you apply for additional scholarships. You will have until January 25, 2010, 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time to apply for additional scholarships. Click here to view the list of scholarships offered through the APIASF Scholarship Program.
  6. **Complete The Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA) Online.** Make sure to complete the FAFSA by February 1, 2010. Applicants that are selected to the next round will be asked to submit a Student Aid Report (SAR), which is generated by the FAFSA.
  7. **Wait To Be Notified.** If you submit your complete application by the deadline, you will be notified in March on the status of your application.
- Many additional APIASF scholarships can be applied for after completing the APIASF Scholarship application