



MSUSM
DENVER

Women in STEM: Scholarships

“Gift” Aid



Grants:

Need-based

Federal

State

Institutional

Scholarships:

Merit-Based,
Need Based,
and More

Institutional

Foundations

External

Complete a FAFSA or CASFA form



A new FAFSA or CASFA must be completed every year- application opens annually in October



Completing all your required financial aid documents ensures we have an accurate picture of your financial need so we can look at you for need-based scholarships.



Make sure all your financial aid paperwork is completed by March 1st



Check your MSU Denver email often to make sure you are not missing anything.

What types of scholarship are there?

01

Foundation Scholarships – awarded by the MSU Denver Foundation and/or specific departments

02

Institutional Scholarships – awarded by the MSU Denver Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

03

Private/External Scholarships – awarded by outside donors

MSU Denver Scholarship Application



Priority deadline
March 1st



The MSU Denver Scholarship Application is a single application that applies you for various Foundation Scholarship Awards.



There is a “**general application**” as well as “**opportunities**” applications.



After completing the general application, you will have the opportunity to apply for more scholarships that may have additional steps



Completing the MSU Scholarship Application is the only way you can be considered for Foundation Scholarship Awards!

Recommended Opportunities Scholarships

- Many of our foundation scholarships are awarded based off of the general application, and do not require any additional steps. You will automatically be reviewed for the scholarships that you match with.
- Scholarships that are under the “*Opportunities*” tab are *additional* scholarships for which you may be eligible for and may require more information.
 - The system identifies these scholarship opportunities for you based on your student record and your answers in the general application.
- You can also use the search tab to find other scholarships you may be eligible for based on demographics, extra curricular activities, or community involvement.

Highlighted MSU Denver Scholarship Opportunities

- C2Hub Scholarship Opportunities: [C2Hub Scholarship Support](#)
 - 1st Year Student: Reisher
 - Freshmen-Junior: Cohen Pacesetter Scholars Program
 - Dream.US- not eligible for federal financial aid
 - **Senior: Women's Foundation of Colorado (OPEN Each Fall)**
- Other Opportunities to look for:
 - [Empowering Women as Leaders](#)- Check annually for deadlines
 - [Cybersecurity Master's Program Academic Scholarship](#)- Check annual for deadl
 - Changemakers in Design- Industrial Design
 - Life Matters Annual Scholarship – Engineering, Math, Anthropology
 - Pamela McIntyre-Marcum Memorial endowed Scholarship
 - Thomas Hoover DDS Health Professions Endowed Scholarship- Biology major with interest in graduate health sciences program
 - Zachary Hergott Annual Aviation Scholarship- Aviation
 - Chelsie Worth Celebration Endowed Scholarship- Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
 - Larry Johnson STEM Opportunity Scholarship: Declared major in STEM Discipline

Highlighted External Scholarship Resources

- [Pathways to Science: Scholarship Listing](#)
- [External Scholarship Listing PDF](#)
- [Bold.Org: Women in STEM Scholarships](#)
- [Madison Trust Scholarship Listing](#)

Tips for Success

Volunteer:

- The scholarship application takes into account any type of volunteering you have done.

Be involved:

- Join clubs or organizations- The scholarship application takes into consideration how much involvement you have with the school, or other activities and clubs.

Have a great essay:

- The essay is a big part of the scholarship application- submit an essay that is well thought out and has been reviewed for content and grammar.

Save these essays in a file. While you should customize every essay to the application, you may use older writing to jump start your essay writing.



Stuck on what to write about?

Take some time to write down some ideas using the following prompts.

Leadership or Community Service

- How or why did you get involved in community service work?
- What have you learned from this experience and how did it shape you as a student?

Personal Accomplishments/Experiences

- How will receiving a scholarship make a difference to you and those around you?
- Is there a specific time or event in your life that had a major impact on you?
- What accomplishments or goals have you met or would like to meet?

Educational Path

- Why did you choose your course of study, and what are you hoping to do with it?
- What has your educational journey taught you about being successful and preserving in your academic pursuits?
- How has your family or community impacted your decisions about college or your chosen career?

Ready to start writing?

Determine the theme of your essay: After filling out the prompts provided, determine which (if any) of those topics stand out, that you want to write your essay about.



After picking your theme, create a thesis statement for you essay: Typically this will contain a few topics that will support the theme of your essay, and directly address the scholarship essay question.



Create a list of main points: Brainstorm! These main points will end up in the **body** paragraphs of your essay. Your body paragraphs can include:

Personal stories or examples to back up your theme and thesis of the essay

Reasons why you need and deserve this scholarship

How will a scholarship and/or degree help you achieve your long-term goals



Create your outline: After you've determined your theme, thesis and main points of your essay, organize them in an outline before you start writing. This will help you make sure each idea you want to use can be fully explained in your essay.

Resources for Essay Help

Writing Center- The writing center can help with any writing assignment at any stage of the writing process

- <https://www.msudenver.edu/writing-center/>

Gender Institute for Teaching and Advocacy (GITA)

- Help with scholarship essay and scholarship searches
- <https://www.msudenver.edu/gender-institute-teaching-advocacy/finding-scholarships-and-grants/scholarship-assistance/>

Immigrant Services Program

Additional Materials:

Letters of Recommendation/Interviews

-  **Tips for Requesting Letters of Recommendation**
- **Ask Early:** Give recommenders at least 3–4 weeks' notice.
- **Choose Wisely:** Select individuals who know your work ethic, character, and achievements well.
- **Provide Context:**
 - Share the scholarship details and criteria.
 - Explain why you're applying and what you hope to achieve.
- **Make It Easy:**
 - Provide your resume/CV, transcript, and a brief summary of accomplishments.
 - Include deadlines and submission instructions.
- **Follow Up & Thank Them:**
 - Send a reminder a week before the deadline.
 - Express gratitude with a thank-you note or email.

-  **Tips for Scholarship Interviews**
- **Know the Scholarship:**
 - Understand its mission, values, and what they look for in candidates.
- **Practice Your Story:**
 - Be ready to talk about your goals, challenges, and achievements.
 - Use the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) for behavioral questions.
- **Prepare Questions:**
 - Have thoughtful questions ready to ask the interviewers.
- **Dress Professionally & Be Punctual**
- **Follow Up:**
 - Send a thank-you email within 24 hours, reiterating your interest and appreciation.



Ready to apply?

Follow the step-by-step slides to complete your application!

Step 1: Go to the “Financial Aid” section in the Student Hub, Click “Scholarships”

 **Financial Aid**

Learn about the types of financial aid offered, eligibility and how to apply.

ACCOUNT SUMMARY

MY FINANCIAL AID

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL
AID

SCHOLARSHIPS

FAFSA

DIRECT DEPOSIT

Back To Top



Step 2: Select “Apply now” then sign in with your Student NetID

Scholarships for MSU Denver Students

24-25 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION: APPLY NOW

Opportunities

Applicants and AdministratorsReferences and Reviewers

Welcome!

Welcome to the MSU Denver Scholarship Application! If you are a Student or Scholarship Administrator, please sign in using your **MSU Denver NetID** (Name and password). If you need help with your MSU Denver Sign in, please contact ITS Help Desk at 303-352-7548 or <https://www.msudenver.edu/technology/>

The MSU Denver Scholarship application is available beginning December 1st and students are encouraged to complete the General Scholarship Application by March 1st. Scholarship applications received on or before March 1st are given priority in consideration for scholarship awards. Scholarship applications received after this date may still be considered. We encourage you to apply even if you miss the March 1st priority date. There are individual scholarship opportunities that will have a due date beyond the General Scholarship Application priority deadline.

Please note: If you are a Reviewer or Reference Provider, please click the “References and Reviewers” tab above and sign in using your email address and password you chose when you confirmed your account.

Sign In MSU Denver NetID

Step 3: Complete and submit the General Application

My Applications

▼ Opportunities

▼ kbetter1@msudenver.edu

Application Progress

●

General Application ⓘ

You can save your application at any time by clicking **Save and Keep Editing** at the bottom of the form. Once completed, you can submit your application by clicking **Finish and Continue**.

Note: Required fields are marked with an asterisk.

General Application Questions

* First Name

Middle Name

* Last Name

* Are you a new, continuing, or transfer student?

☐ New

Step 4: After submitting your general application,

Click on the “*Opportunities*” tab for additional scholarships that are specifically matched with you based on your application

OF DENVER

My Applications

▼ Opportunities

▼ kbetter1@msudenver.edu

! You won't be able to apply or be automatically matched to any opportunities until you [complete your general application](#).

Application Progress

☐ General Application

Recommended Opportunities

Show Filters

PLEASE NOTE: Based on your General Application, below are scholarships for which you may possibly be eligible. Keep in mind that “**Recommended**” does not constitute qualified. The system will identify you from your student record and match you to potential opportunities. Further review of each opportunity will be necessary to ascertain if you meet all requirements. Next to each recommended opportunity, click “**Apply**” to review additional criteria and questions. If you are qualified, answer questions specific to each recommended scholarship, then click “**Finish and Submit.**”

- Based off your application, you will see recommended opportunities that may take an additional step- click on these to see requirements and answer any additional questions.
- You can also search for scholarships by name of scholarship, your major, or other identities such as first generation, Latinx, transfer, etc. in case anything was missed

My Applications

▼ Opportunities

▼ Scott Bergman

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Application Progress

☐ General Application

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Search by Keyword

Award	Name	Actions
Varies	International Students Annual Scholarship Purpose: The Fund is established to provide scholarships to new and...	None ⓘ
Varies	Karen Raforth Student Engagement & Wellness Endowed Scholarship Purpose: This scholarship is an expression of the donor's respect and...	None ⓘ

Search for opportunities here

What's Next?

Scholarship applications are reviewed by a pool of MSU Denver faculty and staff.

Scholarships can be awarded throughout the year, with the majority being awarded over May through November.

Students are only contacted if they are awarded a scholarship. They are not notified if they apply and are not selected.

Reminders if you are awarded a scholarship

Some scholarships may have steps to accept them, so read your email carefully and complete any tasks quickly- don't miss out on funding!

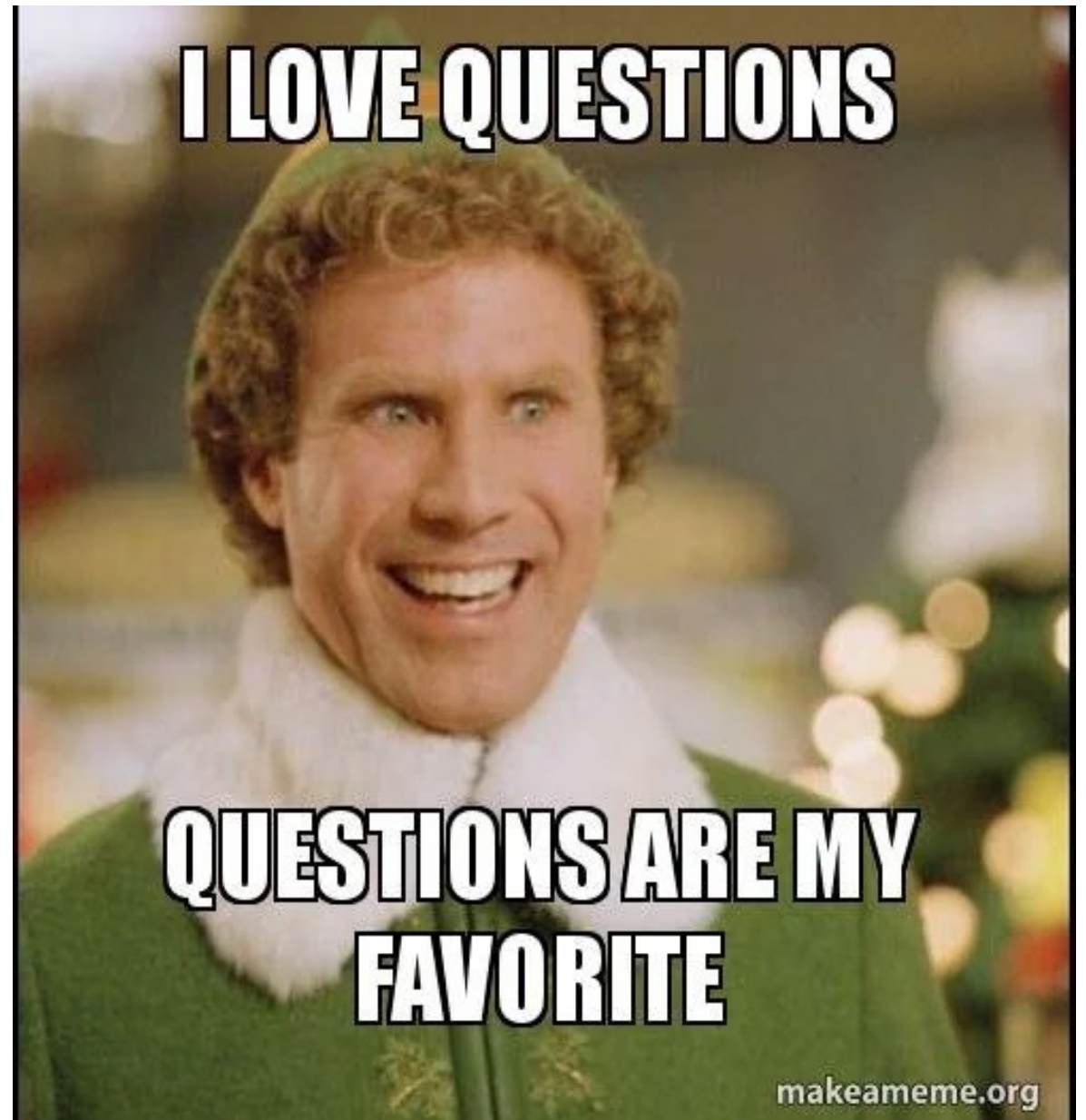
You may be asked to attend a scholarship event in the Spring- we encourage you to attend to meet other scholars and donors! It is a lot of fun!

You may be asked to write a thank you letter to your donor for the scholarship. This request will be emailed to you and may be flagged as being from outside MSU- it is not a scam so please don't ignore it. If you are unsure, ask financial aid!

How to Spot Scholarship Scams

- **Avoid Application Fees**
 - Legitimate scholarships do not require any application fees
- **Beware of Guaranteed Awards**
 - Offers guaranteeing scholarships or claiming universal qualification are common scam tactics to avoid.
- **Protect Personal Information**
 - Never share sensitive details like Social Security Number unless the scholarship source is verified.
- **Recognize Pressure Tactics**
 - Scammers use urgency and pressure to rush decisions—stay calm and verify before acting.
- **Check Emails**
 - Confirm that offer/communication emails are from the official organization and not @scholarships.gmail.com
- **Verify Scholarship Sources**
 - Review organization websites, when in doubt outreach to the organization

Any
Questions?





Thank you!

Contact information here