

South Seattle College Foundation Scholarship

Student Reference Guide (2026–27)

Quick overview: [scholarship flyer](#)

Application Timeline

- The 2026-27 South Seattle College Foundation Scholarship Application opens Monday, March 30, 2026.
- **Deadline:** Friday, May 8, 2026, by 11:59 p.m. (Late submissions cannot be accepted.)

Note: If you have already applied for the Seattle Colleges Foundation scholarships, you can also apply for the South Seattle College Foundation scholarships!

Apply Here

Create your account and complete your application:

<https://southfoundationscholarships.awardspring.com/>

Application Components

What is on the application?

1. General Information
2. Academic Information
3. Transcripts and resume
4. Community/campus Involvement & additional responsibilities
5. Financial Information
6. Three written statements
7. Reference

Application Tips

1. Click outside of each answer box to save your work. A "saved" message will appear.
 2. Make sure each tab on the left says "completed."
 3. If tabs read "in progress," go back to fill in anything missing.
-

Resources for Applicants

- **Have questions?**
 - Join our weekly [Zoom office hours](#) on Tuesdays from 5–6 PM—drop in anytime!
 - Email us at scholarships@southseattlecollegefoundation.org
- **Need help with your written statements?** Contact South's [CLUE \(Center for Learning & Using English\)](#) or use [E-tutoring](#) for support in completing this portion of the application.
- **Need help with your résumé?** Contact [South Seattle's WorkSource Career Center](#).

Overview

Every year, the South Seattle College Foundation awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to help South Seattle College students. By filling out one application, you can be considered for most of the scholarships available.

These scholarships can help pay for:

- Tuition and fees
- Textbooks and supplies (any educational expenses)

Note: Scholarships can be used only at South Seattle College. They cannot be used at Seattle Central or North Seattle Colleges.

Scholarship impact: In Spring 2025, 117 students received scholarship for 311 quarters, totaling \$499,700!

Student Eligibility Requirements

You can apply if you:

- Are currently enrolled at South Seattle College (part-time or full-time) or have attended recently.
Not eligible: Prospective students who have not yet enrolled at South Seattle.
- Plan to attend South Seattle College in 2026-27
- Have a minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA (not needed if it's your first quarter enrolled at South)

Open to:

- Students working on an AA, AAS, BAS, or certificate program
- International students
- Undocumented students
- Running Start students graduating high school in 2026
- Current ESL/ABE students transitioning to college-level or professional/technical courses in 2026-27
- Students in the 2025–26 Seattle Promise program (or the 2024–25 cohort) who will finish in 2026–27 or have completed 90 credits toward their first associate degree

Not eligible: Students planning to use Seattle Promise in 2026–27

Important Note: Pre-nursing students at South Seattle College can apply, but the scholarship cannot be used at Seattle Central. Contact scholarships@southseattlecollegefoundation.org if you have questions.

Scholarship Awards

- Amount: Up to \$2,000 per quarter, maximum \$6,000 per year (up to 3 quarters only)
- Use: Tuition, fees, and educational expenses (including textbooks and supplies) at South Seattle College only.
- Start Date: Available for use beginning Summer Quarter 2026.

Scholarship Usage

- Scholarships can be used only during the 2026–27 school year, for up to three quarters (Summer 2026 through Spring 2027).
- It is very important that you choose only three quarters when applying. You cannot use the scholarship for more than three quarters.
- Scholarships are paid through South Seattle College's Financial Aid Office. You must have South Seattle as your main college and be actively enrolled there.
- The Financial Aid Office decides how much of the scholarship you get based on all your financial aid.
- You must also meet [Satisfactory Academic Progress \(SAP\)](#) at South Seattle College to receive your scholarship.

Reference Requirement

You must provide one reference. This can be:

- A South Seattle College faculty or staff member (preferred), or
- An off-campus professional (for example, an employer or volunteer supervisor)

Do not use friends, family, or significant others, and you cannot write your own reference. If this happens, it will be considered during the review process, and your application may be automatically disqualified.

How to Request a Reference

1. Enter your reference's name and correct email address in the request form. Your reference is called "Recipient" in the form.
2. You can edit the message template and make it personal.
3. Ask someone who is familiar with you/ knows you well, like an instructor, advisor, counselor, employer, or community leader.
4. It is a good idea to have a backup reference in case your first choice cannot complete the form. You can change your reference at any time by entering a new name and email address.

After you submit their information, your reference will get an email with a short online form. Reach out promptly—by phone, email, or in person—to remind your reference to complete the form. Once your reference finishes, you will get an email notification. Then you can log back in and submit your application.

Important Reference Tips

- Make sure your reference completes the form by **11:59 p.m. Monday, May 8, 2026**. **Give your reference at least two weeks to complete it.** Follow up to confirm they received the link (it may go to spam/junk) and that they submitted their responses on time.
- Your application cannot be submitted/considered until your reference finishes the form.

Your reference will be asked these three questions (short answers)

- How long and in what way do they know you?
 - Why do they think you deserve a scholarship?
 - Have you faced any obstacles or special circumstances that affected your education?
-

Written Statement Instructions

There are three written statements in this application. Each has its own word limit, so be sure to check before you start writing:

- Personal Statement: 300–400 words
- Purpose Statement: 200–300 words
- Statement of Financial Need: 200–300 words

In general, responses should be at least 200 words and no more than 475 words. This gives you enough space to fully answer the questions without going over.

AI (Artificial Intelligence) Policy

You can use AI tools to help with things like outlining your ideas or checking grammar and spelling. Do not use AI to write your answers or give false information. Your responses must be your own work and reflect your experiences. Using AI in the wrong way could affect your eligibility. Note: We use a program that can detect if AI was used in your written statements.

Tips to Write Strong Statements

1. Read all the questions first so you know what is being asked.
 2. *Use the Guiding Prompts below to help guide your answers.*
 3. Make an outline for each question to explain every part fully.
 4. Use different examples in each statement to show who you are. More details make your answers stronger.
 5. Write your answers in Word or Notepad first so your work will be saved if you need to stop before submitting.
 6. Ask a teacher, mentor, or family member to review your draft and give feedback.
 7. Need help? Contact South Seattle College's CLUE (Center for Learning & Using English) or use E-tutoring for support in completing this portion of the application.
-

Complete Your 3 Written Statements

1. PERSONAL STATEMENT: Tell us about your journey and experiences that shaped who you are. Highlight key moments that influenced your personal growth. (300-400 word limit)

2. PURPOSE STATEMENT: Tell us about a time you showed determination and progress toward your educational goals. (200-300 word limit)

3. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL NEED: Share your current financial situation and explain how receiving a scholarship would affect your life. Think about how your daily life would change and/or the larger impact a scholarship would have on your finances, your academics, and your motivation. Additionally, please share if there are any possible changes or unknown challenges regarding your ability to afford college. (200-300 word limit)

Guiding Prompts

Use these questions to help guide your answers. You don't need to answer all of them—just focus on what best tells your story. Be specific and reflective. This is your chance to share your experiences, your goals, and how a scholarship could make a difference in your education and future.

Personal Statement Prompts (300–400 words)

1. What motivates or inspires you:
 - o What drives you to succeed in school or in life?
2. Your successes and how you will build them:
 - o Share accomplishments you are proud of and how you plan to keep growing.
3. Leadership and involvement:
 - o Describe times you have taken a leadership role or contributed to your community, school, or family.
4. Key experiences that shaped you:
 - o Share events or experiences that have influenced who you are today.
5. People who have influenced you:
 - o Talk about mentors, family, or others who have shaped your character.

Purpose Statement Prompts (200–300 words)

1. Your determination and progress:
 - o Describe a time you stayed committed to your educational goals, even when it was challenging. What did you do to keep going?
2. Your area of study and goals:
 - o What are you studying, and why did you choose this path?
3. Your future plans:
 - o What do you hope to do after you complete your education?
4. Steps you are taking to achieve your goals:
 - o What actions are you taking now to reach your goals?

Statement of Financial Need Prompts (200–300 words)

1. Your current financial situation:
 - o Describe your finances and how you manage college expenses. Do you work, rely on family support, or use loans, grants, or other resources?
 2. How this scholarship would help you:
 - o Explain how receiving this scholarship would affect your life. Think about changes to your daily life, studies, or motivation.
 3. The bigger impact:
 - o Share how this scholarship could affect your education, goals, or future opportunities.
 4. Any uncertainties or upcoming changes:
 - o Are there changes in your finances or other circumstances that might affect your ability to pay for college in the coming year?
-

Transcript Information:

Upload your unofficial transcript(s). PDF files are preferred.

Help Text:

- **Current students:** Upload your South Seattle College transcript. You can get your unofficial transcript for free by logging into [ctcLink - Sign In.](#)

Steps to get your unofficial transcript

1. Sign into [ctcLink - Sign In](#)
 2. Click on **Student Homepage**
 3. Click on **Academic Records**
 4. Click on **View Unofficial Transcript**
 5. Make sure **Transcript Type** is set to "unofficial" and click **SUBMIT**. (*Tip: If nothing happens, check that pop-ups are allowed in your browser.*)
- If you do not have a South Seattle College transcript yet, upload your current class schedule (for example, Winter 2026 or Spring 2026 schedule).
 - **Running Start students graduating in 2026:** Upload your unofficial high school transcript.
 - If you do not have a recent transcript, you must write a short note explaining why and upload it instead.
 - **Transfer students:** Submit your unofficial transcript(s) from the school(s) you attended in the past.
-

Your Résumé Matters:

This document is highly recommended, but not required. In past scholarship cycles, reviewers have looked at **résumés** and found them **helpful in understanding applicants' skills, work experience, volunteer activities, and achievements**. **Uploading a résumé** gives reviewers a **clearer picture of your strengths and experiences**.

Keeping your résumé updated can help with jobs, volunteering, internships, networking, scholarships, and showing your skills.

Résumé Support:

- Get help creating or improving your résumé through [South Seattle's WorkSource Career Center](#).
 - They offer [in-person and virtual appointments](#)—schedule one today!
-

Scholarship Agreement

Participating in the South Seattle College Foundation scholarship application process means you agree to the terms below. By electronically signing, you confirm that you understand and accept these conditions.

I understand:

- Scholarship funds are limited, and **not all eligible applicants will receive an award**.
- My application will **not be reviewed** if it is incomplete or submitted after the deadline.
- My application is **confidential**, and materials will not be returned.
- Scholarships can be used only for **tuition, fees, and educational expenses** (like textbooks and supplies) at South Seattle College only.
- Receiving a scholarship may **affect my other financial aid**.
- If I am involved in **disciplinary action**, my application may be withdrawn.
- All information I provide must be **true and complete**.
- If any information is false or altered, my application will not be considered. If already awarded, the scholarship may be **taken back**, and the issue may be reported for disciplinary action to the Vice President for disciplinary sanctions under WAC 132F-121-110.
- I am responsible for reviewing instructions carefully and asking questions if anything is unclear.
- I acknowledge that if I used AI as a helpful tool to prepare my written statements, I followed the AI policy described in the scholarship application instructions.

If awarded a scholarship, I agree to:

- Allow my application and academic information to be shared with the **Foundation, donors, selection committee, and Financial Aid Office**.
- Submit a **thank-you letter** to the scholarship donor.
- Allow the Foundation to use my **name and photo** for publications or reports.
- Use the scholarship **only at South Seattle College** during the approved time period.
- Meet **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** requirements.
- Be enrolled in at least **9 credits per quarter** to receive the full award.
- Understand that my scholarship amount may be **reduced based on how many credits I take** (see chart below).

Scholarship Award by Enrollment Level

Your scholarship amount depends on how many credits you take each quarter. Review the chart below to understand how your award may change:

Quarterly Enrollment Level	Credits	Foundation Award Amount
Full-time	12+ credits	Up to \$2,000 (full award)
¾ time	9–11 credits	Up to \$2,000 (full award)
½ time	6–8 credits	\$1,500
Less than ½ time	4–5 credits	\$1,000
Less than ½ time	3 or fewer credits	No award

Important: Your final scholarship award amount may change based on:

- How many credits you enroll in each quarter (see chart above)
- Your overall financial aid package
- Whether you continue to meet all scholarship requirements, including meeting SAP

If you have any questions, reach out to scholarships@southseattlecollegefoundation.org.