



Traditional Scholarship Application FAQs

For use by high schools, college adviser, and community organizations working with potential applicants

When can 11th grade students apply for the KC Scholars scholarship?

- January 1, 2022 – February 25, 2022

What are the eligibility requirements?

1. Be a current 11th grader during the application cycle;
2. Be home-schooled or attend a public, charter, or private high school in the following 6 counties: Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte (MO) or Johnson and Wyandotte (KS);
3. Be lawfully present in the U.S. or DACA eligible and DACA applied/approved;
4. Have at least a 2.5 cumulative high school GPA (5 semesters from 9th grade to the fall semester of 11th grade) or at least a 16 on the ACT or at least an 800 on the SAT; and
5. Be considered low- or modest-income. Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculation on the Federal Student Aid Estimator must be 12,000 or less. The calculation is based on household income, number of members in the family and number of family members that will be in college at the same time. It is the amount of annual financial support a family can be expected to pay toward the student's college education.

What does a 11th grader need to do to apply?

- Create an account at kcscholars.org beginning January 1, 2022
- Complete the Federal Student Aid Estimator and KC Scholars Eligibility Check
- Complete Applicant Form
- Answer two personal statement prompts
- Identify two recommenders to complete online recommendation forms
- Upload high school transcript (can be unofficial and must include 9th grade through first semester of 11th grade)
- If you do not have the required 2.5 GPA to apply, you are required to upload ACT or SAT test scores (16 on ACT)
- Complete the online participation agreement
- Submit all above materials by 11:59 p.m. on February 25, 2022

For a detailed Traditional Application Checklist (guide for the application process) visit, <https://kcscholars.org/traditional/>

Are students that are planning to graduate in December 2022 eligible to apply?

- Yes, a student can be eligible if they meet the following requirements:
 - Graduate from a high school or homeschool in the 6-county service area
 - Have a 2.5 GPA and at least a 16 on the ACT
 - Meet all KC Scholars deadlines and submit all required documentation

Students may enroll in college spring 2023; however, KC Scholars funding will not begin until fall 2023.

What does an 11th grader need to complete the Federal Student Aid Estimator?

For Student

- Birthday
- Citizenship status
- Marital status
- 2020 adjusted gross income
- Amount of assets, including investments/ real estate, businesses, and/or farms in 2020

For Parent(s)

- Age
- Marital status
- Household size
- 2020 adjusted gross income
- Amount of assets, including investments/ real estate, businesses, and/or farms in 2020

The Federal Student Aid Estimator can be completed at <http://kcscholars.org/efc>. Not sure how to complete the Student Aid Estimator to determine income eligibility for KC Scholars? Refer to the EFC Calculator Step-by-Step [Guide](#) or [Video](#) made specifically for purposes of applying to KC Scholars.

What if a student I am assisting is not eligible to complete the FAFSA or has other special circumstances?

- Please ask the student to reach out to us at info@kcscholars.org or 816-581-5700.

If selected, how and when are applicants notified?

- Notifications to both recipients and non-recipients will be emailed on April 29, 2022.

What is the value of the scholarship?

- The traditional scholarship is valued up to \$10,000 a year, renewable for up to 5 years.

Does a student have to attend one of the 17 colleges and universities in the KC Scholars Postsecondary Network?

- Yes, to receive KC Scholars funding a student must attend one of the 17 college and universities in the KC Scholars Postsecondary Network. A student may appeal to go out-of-network during their senior year, but KC Scholars has not previously and does not anticipate allowing many appeals to be granted.

If a Traditional applicant has questions about the application process, where should I direct them?

- Visit the KC Scholars website at <https://kcscholars.org/traditional/>
- KC Scholars is hosting several application workshops throughout the Kansas City area during the application cycles. A list of all application workshops is available at: <https://kcscholars.org/appworkshops/>
- Applicants are also welcomed to email us at info@kcscholars.org or call us at 816-581-5700 if they have additional questions.

Where can I access KC Scholars marketing materials?

- If you would like printed or digital copies of flyers, posters, or information cards, you can contact Cherelle Washington at cwashington@kcscholars.org

What is my role in the application process?

- High school staff, college advisers, and staff at community organizations can serve in a number of roles including:
 - Informing students who may be eligible to apply
 - Serve as a recommender on their application
 - Review an applicant's personal statement prompts
 - Assist an applicant and their family with completing the Federal Student Aid Estimator
 - Hold the applicant accountable and ensure that the application is completed by 11:59 p.m. on February 25, 2022!