

# DEPENDENT EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FAQs

## Q. What is the Dependent Education Scholarship?

A. The Dependent Education Scholarship has been established to help even more members of the West Virginia University family realize the benefits of a WVU education. The University is proud to announce this new program to help dependent children of WVU, WVU Research Corporation and University Innovation Corporation benefits-eligible employees with the cost of an undergraduate education.

## Q. Who is eligible for this scholarship?

A. Dependent children of benefits-eligible employees under age 26 who are enrolled as full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students at WVU campuses or WVU Online are eligible.

## Q. How much is the scholarship?

A. In-state undergraduate dependent children under age 26 may be eligible for up to \$1,650 per academic year (\$825 per semester) for a maximum of four years and with a maximum lifetime benefit of \$6,600. Out-of-state undergraduate dependent children under age 26 may be eligible for up to the difference between in-state and out-of-state University tuition for a maximum of four years.

## Q. What is covered by this scholarship and how will funds be disbursed?

A. The scholarship will be applied up to cost of attendance and can be used to cover University or college/school tuition, fees, room and board, books or other related costs. The Office of Student Financial Support and Services will credit the student's account at the beginning of each term.

## Q. How do I apply for the scholarship?

A. Students apply one time annually depending on the term first enrolled in an academic year. The application is available on the Student Financial Services and Support site at [financialaid.wvu.edu](https://financialaid.wvu.edu) or the Benefits Administration site at [talentandculture.wvu.edu/wellness-and-perks/dependent-education-scholarship](https://talentandculture.wvu.edu/wellness-and-perks/dependent-education-scholarship).

## Q. May the scholarship be used to attend a summer session?

A. The scholarship benefit may be applied to any two terms each academic year (fall, spring or summer terms).

## Q. What is the deadline to apply for the scholarship?

A. The established deadlines are:

**Fall** – May 1

**Spring** – November 1 (*only if student is not awarded for the preceding fall semester*)

**Summer** – April 1 (*only if student is not awarded for both preceding fall and spring semesters*)

**Note:** Only one application per year is required.

## Q. How many credits do students have to take to be eligible?

A. Students must be full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students at the start of the semester (12 hours minimum for fall, spring and summer terms), unless they are a graduating senior and need fewer than 12 credits to graduate. In such cases, students will need to maintain a minimum of half-time status or six credit hours.

**Q. Are there any academic requirements to qualify or remain eligible for the scholarship?**

**A.** Admitted first-time freshmen or transfer students are eligible (there is no minimum high school or transfer GPA or ACT/SAT scores). Continuing students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.75 to remain eligible. GPA checks will be performed as follows:

**Applications for Fall**

- **Continuing Student:** GPA will be checked at the end of the spring semester for the upcoming academic year. If eligible, students will be awarded for the fall and spring semesters only. If the student does not meet the GPA requirement, they are not eligible for a fall award. Summer grades may not be used to meet the GPA requirement. Students may reapply for a future semester.
- **Newly Admitted Student:** There is no GPA requirement for incoming students. Students will be awarded the fall and spring semesters only.

**Applications for Spring**

- **Continuing Student:** GPA will be checked at the end of the fall semester. If eligible, students will be awarded for the spring semester only. If the student does not meet the GPA requirement as of the end of the fall semester, they are not eligible for a spring award. Students may reapply for a future semester.
- **Newly Admitted Student:** There is no GPA requirement for incoming students. Students will be awarded for the spring semester only.

**Applications for Summer**

- **Current Student:** GPA will be checked at the end of the spring semester. Students will be awarded for the summer term only. Summer awards are only available for students who were not awarded during the prior fall and spring. All students also will need to complete the application for the upcoming fall semester.
- **Newly Admitted Student:** There is no GPA requirement for incoming students. Students will be awarded for the summer term only. All students also will need to complete the application for the upcoming fall semester.

**Q. Do I need to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be eligible?**

**A.** Although a FAFSA is not required to be eligible for this scholarship, it is still recommended to ensure maximum consideration of federal and state aid.

**Q. How will I know if I've been awarded the scholarship?**

**A.** Students will receive an email to their WVU MIX email address from WVU Mountaineer HUB verifying eligibility and scholarship status.

**Q. Does the scholarship apply to WVU Tech, WVU Potomac State and WVU Online?**

**A.** Yes. This scholarship applies to the entire WVU System, including classes held on the Morgantown, Keyser and Beckley campuses as well as WVU Online.

**Q. Are the dependents of WVU Research Corporation (WVURC) and University Innovation Corporation employees eligible?**

**A.** Yes. Dependents of WVU Research Corporation and University Innovation Corporation benefits-eligible employees are eligible.

**Q. I currently receive an award under the Dependent Scholarship program. What will happen to that award, and what is the difference between the programs?**

**A.** The current Dependent Scholarship program will be discontinued and replaced with the Dependent Education Scholarship. Under the former program, students received between \$425 and \$1,650 per year. Under the new program, students will be considered for the full-year benefit per academic year for up to four years.

**Q. I applied for the current Dependent Scholarship program. Do I have to reapply for the new Dependent Education Scholarship?**

**A.** No. If you already have applied for the current program and received an award, your award will be adjusted to the new benefit level automatically.

**Q. Will the scholarship for Children of Classified Staff Tuition Assistance be affected?**

**A.** No. The Children of Classified Staff Tuition Assistance program will not be affected. It is a separate program that is managed by Staff Council. Visit [urwvu.wufoo.com/forms/qwydxyo0jliasx](http://urwvu.wufoo.com/forms/qwydxyo0jliasx) for more information.

**Q. What if my parent leaves WVU employment during the academic year?**

**A.** A student is eligible for the full-year benefit as long as their parent/guardian was a benefits-eligible employee at the beginning of the academic year or the start of the first term the student is applying (if spring or summer).

**Q. What if I turn 26 in the middle of the year?**

**A.** As long as you are a full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate student under age 26 at the beginning of the academic year or the start of the initial term you first apply (if spring or summer), you will remain eligible for the full-year benefit.

**Q. One of my parents works for WVU and the other works for WVU Medicine. Since both employers are offering an education scholarship, may I receive both benefits?**

**A.** No. A student may only use one benefit. Students should only apply for the scholarship that is most beneficial to them.

**Q. Where can I find additional information?**

**A.** Visit the Student Financial Services and Support site at [financialaid.wvu.edu](http://financialaid.wvu.edu). Contact the Mountaineer Hub at [mountaineerhub.wvu.edu](http://mountaineerhub.wvu.edu) with questions, or call **304-293-1WVU (1988)**.

**Q. Where can I find information on WVU Medicine's Dependent Tuition benefit?**

**A.** For questions regarding WVU Medicine's Dependent Tuition benefit, contact the WVU Medicine HR Service Center at **1-833-599-2100**.