

The Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship

GUIDELINES



Description & Purpose:

The Commonwealth Good Citizen Scholarship is made possible by two endowments established at the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP). These scholarships are reserved for students who have shown an extraordinary commitment to community service and who have demonstrated creativity in shaping their volunteer activities.

Amount of Award:

There will be eleven (11) scholarships awarded for \$2,000 each. The scholarship funds will be sent to the institution in one payment in mid-August 2024.

Qualifications for the Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship:

The student must be enrolled during the 2024-2025 academic year at a college or university that is a member of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP). Each applicant must also be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student. Award recipients will have an extraordinary commitment to community service and will have demonstrated creativity in shaping his/her volunteer activities. There is no minimum GPA requirement for this scholarship; GPA will be considered only in the event of a tie.

NOTE: Previous recipients of the Good Citizen Scholarship are not eligible to reapply.

Application Materials:

Students must complete an application, write a required essay, and sign a verification page. Students are also encouraged to provide a copy of their academic transcript, a letter of recommendation, and any other materials that they feel will be helpful to the scholarship selection committee in making their decision.

Submission Process:

Each AICUP institution is asked to select **ONE** student application to submit to AICUP for the scholarship competition. (Please do not advise students to send their application directly to AICUP as it will not be accepted.)

The application materials for ONE student must be combined into a single PDF file with the student's name and institution name used as the filename. The PDF file should be emailed to Gayle Baker, AICUP Manager of Research and Special Studies, at baker@aicup.org. **Applications must be submitted to AICUP by June 7, 2024.** If you have any questions about this submission process, please contact Gayle Baker at the email address above or phone 717-232-8649, ext. 229. *Please do not send the application to the AICUP office via postal mail or other delivery service.*

Award Notification:

Each student chosen to receive a scholarship will be notified by AICUP by email in early August 2024. AICUP will mail a check to the financial aid office at each recipient's school in mid-August 2024 with instructions to apply the award to the student's account. Scholarship recipients will be advised to notify their school's financial aid office if the money is not applied to their account in a reasonable amount of time.



The 2024-2025 Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship Application

Student Name:

First Middle Initial Last

Permanent Mailing Address*: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Student Phone Number: _____

Student Campus Email Address: _____

Student Alternative Email: _____

*Permanent home address should be a location at which you can receive mail sent to you during summer 2024. Your address, phone number, and email address will be used to notify you of your application status; they will not be used for any other purpose.

Student Academic Information

College or University currently attending: _____

Class Year: ___ Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior ___ Senior

Major: _____ Minor: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ GPA in major: _____

Expected date of Graduation: _____
Month/Year

Essay Requirement

Please type a brief essay describing your college experience and focusing upon the answers to the following:

- What are your career/academic goals upon graduation?
- What volunteer/extracurricular activities do you participate in, either on or off campus?
- How do your community service activities relate to your major and what leadership roles have you taken on?
- How will you remain involved in your community upon graduation?

Please limit your essay to two (2) double-spaced pages. You must use 1-inch margins (left, right, top & bottom) in your document. Use a font that is easily readable and a font size of 11 or larger. **Failure to follow these guidelines could mean that you will not be considered for the Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship.**

In addition to your application and required essay, you are encouraged to submit a copy of your academic transcript, a letter of recommendation, and any other materials that you feel will be helpful to the scholarship selection committee in making their decision.

Your completed application, essay, and signed certification page should be returned to your financial aid office no later than May 31, 2024.

STUDENT APPLICANT: Certification and Authorization

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application and in my scholarship essay is complete and accurate. I authorize the release of information from my college or university to the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) to confirm the information contained in this application.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

____ By initialing here, I also permit AICUP to use my name and institution and a quote from my essay in a news release and other promotional material should I be selected as a recipient of the 2024-2025 Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship.

The information below should be completed by the financial aid office at your college or university.

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE: Confirmation

By my signature below, I confirm that my institution is nominating the above student for consideration of receiving the 2024-2025 Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship awarded through the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania.

Name of Financial Aid Officer: _____

Title of Financial Aid Officer: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application deadline to AICUP is June 7, 2024

COMMONWEALTH “GOOD CITIZEN” SCHOLARSHIP – FAQs

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are not a U.S. Citizen?

A. Yes, the student does not have to be a U.S. Citizen.

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are a freshman?

A. Yes, the student can be a freshman, including incoming freshman in fall 2024 as well.

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are a graduate or first professional student?

A. No, the student must be an undergraduate student during the 2024-2025 academic year.

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are enrolled as a part-time student?

A. The student must be enrolled full-time for at least one semester of the 2024-2025 academic year.

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are enrolled for only one semester of the 2024-2025 academic year (e.g., they have completed degree requirements and are graduating early)?

A. Yes, a student is eligible for the scholarship as long as they will be an enrolled full-time student for at least one semester.

Q. Can the scholarship award be held by my institution while a student is studying abroad for the fall semester and returning to campus for the spring?

A. Yes, as long as the student remains registered as a full-time student at your institution and will attend on-campus for at least one semester.

Q. When can we expect to receive the scholarship money and to whom on campus is the money sent?

A. You can expect a check for the award money to be sent to your Financial Aid Office around mid-August 2024.

Q. Can a previous recipient of the Good Citizen Scholarship apply again?

A. No, previous recipients of the Good Citizen Scholarship are not eligible to reapply for the scholarship. However, previous applicants for the Good Citizen Scholarship, who were not selected for an award, may reapply.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship 2024-2025

Who is eligible: All full-time undergraduate students who have an extraordinary commitment to community service and who have demonstrated creativity in shaping their volunteer activities. Must attend an AICUP school – cannot reapply if you have previously been a recipient of the scholarship.

How to apply: Applications are available at the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be returned to the Financial Aid Office for submission to AICUP.

Deadline to apply: Applications must be received by AICUP no later than **Friday, June 7, 2024** to be considered. (Please check with your Financial Aid office for any internal deadlines you must meet.)

***For more information on this scholarship opportunity, please contact the Financial Aid Office.**

The Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship is funded through two endowments managed by the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP).

