AXA Achievement Scholarship

Program Information

The AXA Achievement⁵⁰⁰ Scholarship offers college scholarships of \$2,500, \$10,000 and \$25,000 to high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their activities in school, the community or the workplace. Scholarship winners are known as AXA Achievers. They are ethnically and economically diverse, but they share these qualities: ambition and drive; determination to set and reach goals; respect for self, family and community; ability to succeed in college. The scholarship is sponsored by the <u>AXA Foundation</u>, the philanthropic arm of AXA US.

The 2018 program will be accepting applications from September 5, 2017 until 10,000 applications are submitted or December 15, 2017, whichever comes first. Your application MUST be one of the first 10,000 submitted electronically by the deadline date. *Apply early!*

The program is administered by Scholarship America, the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship, tuition assistance and other education support programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals.

Scholarship Guidelines

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants to the AXA Achievementsm Scholarship must:

- Be a United States citizen or legal resident living or claiming residency in one of the 50 U.S. states, District of Columbia or Puerto Rico.
- Be a current high school senior who plans to enroll full-time in an accredited two-year or four-year college or university in the United States for the entire 2018-19 academic year. Enrollment at an accredited postsecondary institution outside of the United States will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Demonstrate ambition and self-drive as evidenced by outstanding achievement in school, community or work-related activities.

Special consideration will be given to achievements that empower society to mitigate risk through education and/or action in areas such as financial, environmental, health, safety and/or emergency preparedness.

Employees, associates, financial professionals or immediate family members of employees, associates or financial professionals of the AXA Group, or Scholarship America, or their affiliates, subsidiaries or advertising and promotion agencies are not eligible.

What will be awarded?

Fifty-two (52) students will each receive a **\$10,000** scholarship. One recipient will be selected from each U.S. state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

From among these 52 recipients, **ten** (10) will be selected to receive an additional \$15,000 scholarship. These national AXA Achievers will each be awarded scholarships totaling **\$25,000**.

Approximately **300** students will be selected to receive a **\$2,500** scholarship.

Specific award amount - either \$2,500, \$10,000 or \$25,000 - will be determined by Scholarship America.

A student may only receive one AXA-sponsorsed scholarship.

Every AXA Achiever's high school - no matter the amount of their scholarship - will receive a grant of \$1,000.

AXA Achievement⁵⁵⁵ Scholarships must be used for education-related expenses for undergraduate study only. Awards are not renewable; however, recipients receiving the \$10,000 and \$25,000 awards may arrange to receive payment in installments over multiple years as long as the student continues to enroll in undergraduate study. Recipients receiving the \$2,500 award must use it during the 2018-19 academic year.

How do I apply?

The first step is to register, create an application account and complete your student profile. To begin, click on the *Create an Account* link at the bottom of this page. The link to your application is displayed on the Student Overview page of this site **after** you create your profile. Your Student Profile is NOT your application.

Students should gather the following information needed for the application process:

- List of involvement in school and community activities
- List of work experience
- Current high school cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale
- The details of your outstanding achievement. Read through the online application's essay questions and carefully consider your responses. Be sure to fully capture and articulate what makes your achievement truly outstanding. You may wish to use word processing software to write and edit your responses. If you copy and paste your responses into the appropriate application fields, review the pasted text carefully for any character shifting or replacements that may have occurred. Also, place the cursor into the pasted text to activate the application's character counter function. Essays cannot exceed character limits.

Standard capitalization (Jackie Smith, not jackie smith or JACKIE SMITH) must be used when entering data.

During the application process, you will be able to save your entered information and leave the site by clicking on the *Log Out* button located on each application page.

To log back into your account, you must enter your username and password. Click the *Continue Application* button to access your application. Your application will remain available for updates until you submit it.

While not all fields are marked as required, we encourage applicants to answer all questions. Until all required fields are completed and in the proper format, you will not be able to submit your application. The Review Page will highlight which items still need your attention. Once all application requirements are satisfied, the *Lock and Submit* button will be available to you near the bottom of the Review page. Carefully review your entire application before clicking on the *Lock and Submit* button. After the application is successfully submitted, your application can be viewed or printed for your files, but no further updates can be made. Profile information, however, may be updated at any time if needed.

Only electronic applications received through the above process will be considered. **Paper copies of applications, resumes or other materials will not be accepted.**

Information received is considered confidential and is reviewed only by Scholarship America. The AXA Foundation may participate in the selection of recipients for the national awards. If selected to receive an award, the student must authorize release of scholarship application materials and photographs for use by the sponsor for program promotion and publicity.

Are any documents required?

No documents are to be sent to Scholarship America at this time. Applicants selected for further consideration will be notified by email to submit high school transcripts and an applicant appraisal confirming the outstanding achievement. Do not send any materials until invited to do so.

When is the program open period?

Only the first 10,000 applications will be considered. If the program reaches 10,000 completed applications before the deadline date of December 15, 2017, then the program will automatically close. Your application MUST be one of the first 10,000 submitted electronically.

How are recipients selected?

Selection of recipients is a two-stage process. The first stage will be selection of finalists.

Primary consideration will be given to the applicant's non-academic outstanding achievement as described in the online application essays when selecting finalists. The achievement may be a long-term achievement, an activity or a project that occurred in their school, in the community or in the workplace. Other extracurricular activities in school and community, work experience, and the applicant's academic record over the past four years will be considered when selecting finalists.

Special consideration will be given to achievements that empower society to mitigate risk through education and/or action in areas such as financial, environmental, health, safety and/or emergency preparedness. Consideration will also be given to select a diverse group of recipients.

Finalists will be notified by email and asked to submit further information including a current complete transcript of grades and an appraisal from an unrelated adult who is closely involved with your achievement and knowledgeable about your accomplishments. Primary consideration of recipients will be given to the finalist's demonstrated achievement as reported on the application and supported by the appraisal completed by an adult who is not related to the applicant.

All finalists and recipients are selected by Scholarship America, a national nonprofit student aid and educational support organization. The AXA Foundation may participate in the selection of the ten (10) national awards. All decisions are final and are not subject to appeal. The program is competitive; not all applicants will be selected as finalists; not all finalists will be selected as recipients.

How and when will I be notified?

All applicants will be notified of their status via email in early January. **The email address on file in your student profile must be active and you must check your email regularly.** Finalists will receive instructions regarding further documentation required for recipient selection.

How and when are scholarships paid?

- Payment is made in two installments: the first on August 1, 2018 and the second on December 15, 2018.
- Scholarship America issues checks on behalf of the AXA Foundation.
- Checks are mailed from Scholarship America to each recipient's home address.
- Checks are made payable to the school for the recipient's account.

High school grants are payable to the student's high school to be used for professional development activities.

The AXA Foundation reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship program and to make changes at any time including termination of the program.