



THE RENAISSANCE FUND

2022-2023 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS & APPLICATION

The Renaissance Fund, NFP (“The Renaissance Fund”) awards scholarships to eligible undergraduate and graduate students attending eligible educational institutions¹ within the United States. The Renaissance Fund encourages all students to apply, however students must have a demonstrable financial need. Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$5,000 and are for the purposes of providing educational assistance to recipients with true financial need who are of Greek heritage or are actively involved with the Eastern Orthodox faith. The Renaissance Fund reserves the right to award scholarships in amounts that exceed the scholarship award amount listed based on the financial need of the Applicant, academic performance, community service and the quality of the application submitted. Please make sure you read these instructions very carefully.

Attached is the Checklist and Application Form required for The Renaissance Fund Scholarship. The Scholarship Application must be filled out in its entirety. Students must submit a complete application with all required documentation to The Renaissance Fund to be considered for a scholarship. (See list below and Checklist for details). **Make sure you include the Checklist as the top page of your completed application.** It is the responsibility of each student to ensure their application is complete and the required materials have been received. **The Renaissance Fund will not consider incomplete applications.** Please type or print your responses clearly.

Selection of recipient students will be based on the following information:

- Applicant’s financial need. Financial need may be demonstrated in many ways, including but not limited to one or more of the following:
 - 1) Amount of household income;
 - 2) Single parent household as a result of death or divorce;
 - 3) Total student loan debt to date;
 - 4) Number of siblings attending college;
 - 5) A parent’s disability or retirement;
 - 6) Significant medical expenses incurred for the care and treatment of yourself or an immediate family member; or

¹ “An eligible educational institution is a school offering higher education beyond high school. It is any college, university, trade school, or other post secondary educational institution eligible to participate in a student aid program run by the U.S. Department of Education.” <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit/eligible-educational-inst>



7) Other extenuating or unforeseen circumstances causing financial strain or the accumulation of necessary debt.

- Completeness and overall quality of the application package including all of the required documentation.
- Applicant's GPA and academic standing
- Applicant's SAT/ACT/GMAT/GRE/LSAT or MCAT scores
- Applicant's community involvement or service within the church

Required Documentation:

In addition to the Scholarship Application, Applicants need to submit the following required documentation to be considered for a scholarship:

- Proof of enrollment at a U.S eligible educational institution. This could be an admission letter, class schedule, billing receipt, or any other documentation showing enrollment for the 2022-2023 academic year.
- Copies of the Applicant's SAT/ACT/GMAT/GRE/LSAT or MCAT scores.
- Official transcripts
- A copy of your current Free Application for Federal Student Aid ("FAFSA") or Student Aid Report ("SAR"). **Please redact your full date of birth, leaving only the year of your birth and any social security numbers appearing on the FAFSA or SAR before submitting the documents.** NOTE: If you have not applied for FAFSA or SAR, please indicate on the application checklist.
- Applicant's Resume or Curriculum Vitae.
- If the Applicant is applying on the basis of affiliation with the Eastern Orthodox Church, please provide evidence of that affiliation. This could be a letter from a Priest or Baptismal Certificate.
- If the Applicant is applying on the basis of Greek Heritage, please provide evidence of that heritage.
 - If applying based on Greek Heritage of Applicant:
 - Birth Certificate from Greece
 - European Union Passport
 - U.S., State or Local Government authenticated documents containing evidence or reference that the student's country of origin is Greece.



- If applying based on Greek Heritage of Applicant’s parents or grandparents:
 - Birth Certificate from Greece
 - Marriage Certificate from Greece
 - Death Certificate from Greece
 - Greek or European Union Passport
 - U.S., State or Local Government authenticated documents containing evidence or reference that parents or grandparents’ country of origin is Greece.
- A completely filled-in Budget Form
- An essay response, no longer than five (5) pages, double spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font, that respond to one (1) of the following prompts:
 - “Vaccination”, as defined by the Center for Disease Control (“CDC”), is “the act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce *protection* from a specific disease” (emphasis added). Prior to September 2021, however, “Vaccination” was defined by the CDC as “the act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce *immunity* to a specific disease” (emphasis added). Is this change important? Why do you think the CDC revised the definition? What implications does this change have on how we view the response to stopping the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - Has social media created or fueled a culture of hate in America? Why or why not? Take a position and provide an analysis including specific examples to support your position.
- A total of three (3) letters of recommendation: one (1) from a professional/academic source, one (1) from a religious source, and one (1) from a personal source. Letters of recommendation must be signed by the recommender and mailed or emailed directly to The Renaissance Fund. The Applicant may provide two (2) letters of recommendation from academic sources in lieu of a religious source if applying based on Greek Heritage. **Letters of Recommendation must contain the original signature of the recommender. Electronic signature and email recommendations will not be accepted.**
- Applicants may also provide a narrative description consisting of no more than 250 words, double spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font, outlining their financial need.

Scholarship applications and required documentation are to be submitted in **one envelope** if submitting via mail or overnight delivery or **one combined PDF** attachment if submitting via email (with the exception of the official transcripts and letters of recommendation) to The Renaissance Fund, by mail, overnight delivery or email to the addresses below.

The Renaissance Fund, NFP
Attn: Scholarship Application
216 S. Jefferson St., Suite 301



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Chicago, IL 60661

or admin@therenaissancefund.org with the Subject Line: (Name of Applicant) Scholarship Application.

Scholarship Applications must be postmarked in the case of mailing or received in the case of emailing by April 1, 2022. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

The Renaissance Fund will announce decisions on Scholarship awards on August 1, 2022.

The Renaissance Fund will disburse the first half of Scholarship awards in August of 2022 following the Applicant's acceptance of the Scholarship award, signed Scholarship Agreement, Applicant's proof of enrollment and student invoice. The Renaissance Fund will disburse the second half of the Scholarship awards in January of 2023, following Applicant's submission of grades, proof of enrollment and student invoice for Spring Semester.

Any questions should be directed to The Renaissance Fund at admin@therenaissancefund.org with "Scholarship" contained in the subject line. Due to the high volume of questions and Applicants, the Renaissance Fund is unable to respond to telephone inquiries.



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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Student Name: _____

Required Submission Items for Scholarship Application:

- Completely filled-in and signed application
- Completely filled-in and signed Budget Form
- Proof of enrollment
- Copies of SAT/ACT/GMAT/GRE/LSAT or MCAT scores (circle one)
- Copies of FAFSA or SAR
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- Evidence of affiliation with the Eastern Orthodox Church and/or Greek Heritage
- Essay Response
- Financial Need description (optional)
- Official Transcript
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation

*NOTE: If for any reason one or more of the required documents, with the exception of the Official Transcript or Letters of Recommendation is not provided, please attach an appendix with a short description as to why the document is not provided.



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Application Information

Applicant Instructions: Please complete all sections of this application, sign it, and return it along with all required documents. Incomplete applications will not be considered—**no exceptions**.

I. STUDENT INFORMATION:

1. Student's Name: _____
2. Student's Mailing Address: _____

3. Year of Birth (YYYY): _____
4. Phone Number: _____
5. Citizenship: _____ U.S Citizen *or* _____ Permanent Resident *or* _____ F-1 Visa Holder
6. Student's Email: _____

II. SCHOOL INFORMATION:

1. Undergraduate College/University Name: _____
Location (city/state): _____
Degree: _____ Major: _____
GPA: _____
Date of Graduation: _____ *or* Expected Date of Graduation: _____
2. Graduate or Post-Graduate College/University Name: _____
____n/a: Undergraduate Student
Location (city/state): _____
Degree: _____ Major: _____
GPA: _____
Expected Date of Graduation: _____

II. SCHOOL INFORMATION CONTINUED:

3. Enrollment Status (check one):
____ Enrolled Full-Time



____ Accepted full-time beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year

4. Test Scores:

SAT/ACT (circle one) Score: _____ out of _____ (for Undergraduate Applicants)

GMAT/GRE/LSAT/MCAT/ (circle one) Score: _____ out of _____ (for Graduate Applicants)

III. FAMILY INFORMATION

5. Applicant's Marital Status: ____ Single *or* ____ Married

6. Parent's Guardian Information:

Parent/Guardian 1 Name: _____

Address: _____

Occupation: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Relationship to Applicant: _____

____ Deceased

Parent/Guardian 2 Name: _____

Address: _____

Occupation: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Relationship to Applicant: _____

____ Deceased

IV. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

7. Jurisdiction: please indicate the jurisdictions listed below to which you belong/attend:

____ Not Applicable (Applying based on Greek Heritage)

____ Orthodox Christian Jurisdiction: _____

IV. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION CONTINUED

8. Parish Information:

Parish Name: _____

Parish Location (city/state): _____

Parish Priest Name: _____



V. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

9. Letter of Recommendation #1: Academic/Religious/Personal (circle one)

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

10. Letter of Recommendation #2: Academic/Religious/Personal (circle one)

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

11. Letter of Recommendation #3: Academic/Religious/Personal (circle one)

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

VI. FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

12. University/College Tuition Cost: _____

13. Amount Outstanding: (Box 3 of the Budget Form): _____

14. Does the Applicant work while he or she is in school? Y / N (circle one)

If so, approximately how many hours per week: _____

15. Have you taken out any student loans? Y / N (circle one)

If so, indicate the amount of student loan debt incurred so far: _____

16. Are your parents or anyone else assisting you in any way with your tuition or living expenses? Y / N (circle one)

If so, please explain the extent of the assistance and for how long:



VII. DISBURSEMENT & CONTACT INFORMATION

17. University/College Name: _____

Student ID number: _____

Student Account number (if applicable): _____

Office of Financial Aid or Tuition Payment Address: _____

Financial Aid Advisor: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____



VIII. AUTHORIZATION & CONTACT INFORMATION

I authorize The Renaissance Fund, NFP to release Scholarship application information, including copies of my application to The Renaissance Fund or agent thereof.

I agree to have The Renaissance Fund, or its agent verify any and all of the application information given, including pertinent personal and financial information. The Renaissance Fund or its agent may contact individuals, employers, references, as well as schools cited herein to substantiate this information. I also understand that I may be required to authenticate information given by submitting copies of Federal Tax returns, FAFSA, SAR, evidence of student loan debt, test scores, transcripts, or any other relevant documents or statements.

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application and its attachments are true and accurate and that I am the author of this completed application, resume, budget form and essay response. I understand that if any information is found to be inaccurate or incomplete, The Renaissance Fund will deny me a scholarship award.

I acknowledge that The Renaissance Fund has advised me to omit and/or redact my date and month of birth as well as all social security numbers from my application or any of the Required Documentation submitted with this application. I understand and agree to hold harmless and hereby release The Renaissance Fund from any and all liability for claims of damages related to the disclosure of any personal identification information that I may have submitted with my application.

If awarded The Renaissance Fund Scholarship, I authorize The Renaissance Fund to publicize my name and the school I am attending in printed materials and on its website. The Renaissance Fund is committed to protecting the security and integrity of all information provided by an Applicant. All personal identification or financial information and/or documents disclosed to The Renaissance Fund through the application process, (“Protected Information”) will be protected and kept confidential. The Renaissance Fund will not directly or indirectly sell, trade, or otherwise disclose your Protected Information to outside parties without your written consent.

If a Scholarship is awarded, the Applicant agrees that prior to the disbursement of any Scholarship funds, it will be required to execute a Scholarship Agreement setting forth the terms, conditions, and restrictions of the Scholarship award and the Student’s obligation to The Renaissance Fund, NFP.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Printed Name of Applicant: _____

Date: _____