



THE  
RENAISSANCE  
FUND

## **The Renaissance Fund Fellowship**

The Renaissance Fund Fellowship was created to recognize students, who have completed their studies and obtained an undergraduate degree, for their past stellar academic achievement and performance and provide financial assistance to those students in their future educational pursuits. The Renaissance Fund Fellowship may be awarded for a single year or multiple years and the amount awarded must be exclusively used for the student's tuition and fees, books, supplies, equipment, room and board, seminar and educational related travel at an "eligible educational institution"<sup>1</sup>

### **Eligibility:**

- Must be of Greek descent (one parent must be of Greek heritage); and/or be of a faith within the Eastern Orthodox Church;
- Must be seeking an advanced degree;
- Enrolled in an eligible educational institution;
- Must have demonstrated financial need; and
- Must be enrolled in an advanced degree program on a part time (at least 4 hours or 2 courses per semester) or full time basis (Executive Certificate Programs are not eligible)

### **Criteria and Selection Process:**

Students must be nominated through one or more letters of recommendation directed to The Renaissance Fund's Board of Directors. Letters of recommendations from educators, religious community leaders and others will be considered. Recommenders cannot be related to a Fellowship Nominee. Letters of recommendation must include the following: 1) a detailed explanation of the student's academic achievement and performance; 2) a detailed description of the student's character, work ethic, community and/or church involvement, leadership skills and ability; and 3) other factors, such as financial need or personal challenges the recommender believes is important for the full evaluation of the student.

Students are expressly prohibited from applying or requesting participation in The Renaissance Fund Fellowship Program.

The Renaissance Fund's Board of Directors will perform due diligence to confirm the accuracy of the information submitted in the letters of recommendation, including but not limited to contacting

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Internal Revenue Code, Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) "An eligible educational institution is a school offering higher education beyond high school and is any college, university, vocational school, or other post-secondary educational institution eligible to participate in a student aid program run by the U.S. Department of Education."

and interviewing the recommended student and/or the individual(s) recommending the student. Students under consideration are required to provide evidence of the student's past academic achievement and performance, such as certified transcripts and/or awards, and demonstrated financial need. Student's and/or Student and Spouse's income and employer sponsored education programs will be reviewed and taken into account.

Recipients and the amount awarded are selected by a majority vote of The Renaissance Fund's Board of Directors based on the student's past academic achievement, performance, the nomination letter(s) and demonstrated financial need.

The number and amount of The Renaissance Fund Fellowships awarded annually is within the sole discretion of The Renaissance Fund's Board of Directors and will be determined by assessing the status of the assets available for distribution annually and the amount of funds necessary to adequately provide for the support of the student. The Renaissance Fund reserves the right to not award The Renaissance Fund Fellowship in any given year.

The Renaissance Fund Fellowship is limited to a maximum of three (3) years of advanced degree study at an eligible educational institution.

Students who receive The Renaissance Fund Fellowship are ineligible to participate in any other scholarship program offered or sponsored by The Renaissance Fund.

### **Recipient's Obligations:**

Recipients of The Renaissance Fund Fellowship are required to provide written proof of enrollment that they are a candidate for an advanced degree at an eligible educational institution and a certified transcript of grades from prior educational institutions.

For each year a recipient receives grant funds, the recipient must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or B average;

Recipients are required to sign a Fellowship Agreement agreeing to provide written proof of enrollment at an eligible educational institution; evidence of class registration and transcript of grades for each school semester or term; acknowledging that the funds are to be solely used for tuition and fees, books, supplies, room and board, seminar and educational related travel, acknowledging that the misuse of any grant funds will cause the recipient to forfeit any future grant funds and will result in the recipient being permanently barred from future participation in any of The Renaissance Fund's sponsored Scholarship or Grant Programs and requiring the recipient to repay all grant funds received back to The Renaissance Fund.

### **Deadlines:**

All letters of recommendations must be postmarked no later than **July 1** preceding the Fall Semester of any school year.

All letters of recommendation and any supporting documentation shall be emailed to [admin@therenaissancefund.org](mailto:admin@therenaissancefund.org) or addressed and mailed to:

The Renaissance Fund, NFP  
Attn: The Renaissance Fund Fellowship  
216 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 301  
Chicago, IL 60661