

First Generation

RSM US Foundation Scholarship Program - FAQs

What is the First Generation Scholarship?

RSM US Foundation is helping first generation college business or technology students succeed in the business world with additional financial support to complete their education and realize their dreams through the First Generation Scholarship Program. To build tomorrow's leaders, the [RSM US Foundation](#) is granting \$50,000 in scholarships for the 2022/2023 academic year to 5 first generation college students.

What is the scholarship award?

Five recipients will be granted awards through the 2022/2023 First Generation scholarship program, and each recipient will receive a \$10,000 scholarship paid to the recipient's College/University on the recipient's behalf in two \$5,000 payments (Fall 2022 and Spring 2023) and applied to the recipient's tuition and/or room and board. No money will be paid to the student directly. Each recipient will receive \$10,000 per academic year for up to three years, for a total of up to \$30,000 per Scholarship.

What if I already receive scholarships or financial aid?

The scholarship funds will be paid to the college/university directly for invoiced expenses to include tuition, on-campus housing, and/or dining plans. Scholarship funds cannot be applied to off-campus housing or be paid to the recipient directly.

Who is eligible to apply for this scholarship?

The program is open only to U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident card), or individuals granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA), or an asylee/refugee authorized to work, who are at least 18 years old as of the date of application. Applicants must be:

- Applicants must be a freshman, sophomore or junior with no immediate family members from previous generations that have received a bachelor's degree. An applicant is still considered a first generation student even if their immediate siblings have or are currently pursuing a bachelor's degree.
- Studying business or technology in a bachelor's degree program at a College/University.
- Full-time students in good standing at their College/University with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent).
- A qualifying College/University must be an accredited four-year college or university located in the 50 United States or District of Columbia.

Who is not eligible for the scholarship?

Full-time and/or part-time employees, temporary employees, partners, principals, contractors, and current or former interns (and their immediate family members) of RSM US LLP, RSM US Wealth Management LLC, Risk & Regulatory Consulting, LLC, and their respective affiliated entities (collectively, "**RSM**") and of the Foundation are not eligible.

When is the deadline to apply?

Eligible students may submit their applications between 12:01 a.m. Central Time on December 1, 2021 and 11:59 p.m. Central Time, February 28, 2022. Only one application per student is allowed.

How are recipients selected?

You will complete the online application (see "How do I submit my scholarship application?" for instructions) and submit a short video demonstrating what *The Power of Being You* means to you.

What does "The Power of Being You" mean to RSM? Employees of RSM experience "The Power of Being You" because of the firm's commitment to an environment where individuals are valued for who they are and the unique skills and capabilities they bring. RSM creates a place where employees can be their best and also deliver their best to our clients.

Your video must contain only original content. It is recommended to simply capture yourself and to not include other people, photos, videos, music or content other than you in order to comply with the terms and conditions of this scholarship.

Your video must not exceed 45 seconds, and you will also submit a short answer response (statement) and unofficial transcript. Upload your video to YouTube. Please select “Unlisted” from the visibility settings when you upload your video on YouTube, so that your video is not publicly available. You will need the link to your video when submitting your application.

What do I need before I submit my application?

1. The link to your unlisted YouTube video (see “How are recipients selected?” for details)
2. An unofficial copy of your transcript

How do I submit my scholarship application?

When you have your unlisted YouTube video link and unofficial transcript, visit [First Generation \(rsmus.com\)](https://rsmus.com) to apply:

1. Review the scholarship program description and Terms and Conditions
2. Click the link to “Apply for the scholarship”
3. Complete the applicant registration form to create your GrantsConnect account and click “Sign Up.”
4. Check your email for the registration confirmation and click “Get Started” to verify your email address to activate your account.
5. Return to the application by clicking “Apply for the Scholarship” and sign in.
6. Click “Start Eligibility” and answer the eligibility questions on the next screen—students who meet the eligibility requirements will be prompted to begin the application
7. Complete the Form Questions, including your College/University name, uploading an unofficial copy of your transcript, answering a brief short answer response (statement), providing a link to your video and answering “yes” to accept the Terms and Conditions of the First Generation scholarship program, then click Submit
8. Once you hit Submit you will be unable to edit your application.
9. You will be sent an email confirming your application was submitted.

How are recipients selected?

A panel of judges, selected by RSM US Foundation, will review and judge each applicant’s application based on quality of the video (60%), quality of the statement (25%) and applicant’s GPA (15%). Judges will grade the video, statement and GPA each on a scale of one to seven, with seven being the highest score. In judging the video, judges will evaluate the degree to which the video reflects some or all of the following RSM US core values: Integrity (is the video believable and from the heart); Teamwork (does the video display a desire to work with others); Excellence (does the video reflect innovation and creativity); Stewardship (does the video tie in to RSM’s middle market focus and show support for one’s local community); and Respect (does the video demonstrate the importance of respect and fair treatment of others). The judges will evaluate the statement based on creativity, quality of writing and reflection of the applicant’s individuality. The five applicants whose applications receive the highest scores based upon the judging criteria will be deemed recipients of scholarships.

When will I know if I am selected?

The RSM US Foundation will attempt to notify selected recipients in April.

What if I have questions or an issue submitting my application?

Send an email to RSMscholarships@rsmus.com.

I did not receive an award this year. May I apply again next year?

Yes, you may apply to future programs if you continue to meet the eligibility requirements.