
Golden Eagle Scholarship - Aurora Public Schools

Scholarship Policy

The APS Golden Eagle Scholarship is a four-year scholarship exclusively for Aurora Public Schools students who attend Colorado State University Global (CSU Global), a 100% online college that is part of the Colorado State University system. The scholarship will be administered by the Denver Foundation in partnership with Aurora Public Schools and CSU Global.

Eligibility Criteria

Students must meet the following criteria to be considered for the scholarship:

1. Graduate from Aurora Public Schools (APS) the same year as applying for the scholarship
2. Be enrolled in APS for at least two years of high school, including junior and senior year. This requirement will be waived for students who have one or more parents in the military. Charter school students and APS-authorized Options students residing within the APS boundary are eligible to apply
3. Graduate from high school with a minimum 2.3 GPA (unweighted GPA)
4. Score a minimum 1090 on the SAT or 22 on the ACT

Requirements

In addition to the above eligibility criteria, in order to receive the scholarship, students must:

1. Demonstrate financial need.
 - a. Have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from 0 to 13,715 (2.5 times Pell Grant limit).
 - b. Students who are not eligible to complete FAFSA must demonstrate financial need by qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch.
2. Enroll at CSU Global by August following high school graduation;
3. Have at least one year of work experience by the time of initial enrollment at CSU Global and at least two years of work experience before beginning the second year of study. The work experience requirement may be fulfilled by full-time employment, part-time employment, paid or unpaid internships, or other volunteer work.
4. Enroll full-time, and successfully complete at least 30 credits per year (~10 classes per year) in their degree program; first-year students must complete 30 credits in their degree program each academic year, and be continually enrolled before taking an enrollment break. Students who do not complete 30 credits in a year will no longer be eligible to receive the scholarship; and
5. Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress or SAP (i.e. 2.0 GPA and 66.67% course completion). Students who are placed on warning/probation will lose their scholarship until they return to good academic standing.

Student Application Process

- Deadline: March (exact date will vary)
- Apply online at: <https://denverfoundation.academicworks.com/opportunities/554>
- Submit an online application, including one required essay and one letter of recommendation or nomination form from a teacher or counselor.
- Submit resume, which demonstrates at least one year of work experience.
- Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online by March 15 (www.fafsa.gov).
 - Have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from 0 to 13,715.
 - Students who are not eligible to complete FAFSA must demonstrate financial need by qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch.

Selection Process

A selection committee of at least five (5) individuals representing APS, CSU Global, Denver Foundation, and other community partners will convene in April to review applications and select winners. The committee will select up to 26 scholarship winners for each school year.

In making their selections, the committee will consider equitable distribution of awards across the district as well as the overall strength of each application, including:

- Academic merit
- Demonstrated financial need
- Length of enrollment in APS
- Clarity of career goals and alignment with available programs at CSU Global
- Likelihood of success in a 100% online college program

Award Amounts

Every winner will receive a minimum \$7,500 annual award, and may receive more depending on available funding and the student's unmet need after other financial aid. Annual scholarship amounts will be divided into thirds and applied directly to the student's account by CSU Global each trimester.

Timeline

- February 11: Application available at <https://denverfoundation.academicworks.com/opportunities/554>
- March 15: Preferred deadline to apply and submit FAFSA
- By May 1: Winners notified
- July - October: Student may choose to begin enrollment at CSU Global during any of the Fall terms

Maintaining the Scholarship

The scholarship will automatically renew for up to four years when the student enrolls at CSU Global each term as long as the student:

- Maintains Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- Successfully completes at least 30 credits per academic year in the chosen degree program
- Has not exhausted their four years of eligibility
- Has not completed a Bachelor's degree