

Frequently Asked Questions about Eligibility Criteria

Defining First Generation:

What if my sibling is in college? What if my sibling has a degree?

We do not consider your siblings' degree status unless they are your legal guardian. |

What if my parent is in college?

If your parent is currently attending college but does not have a bachelor's degree yet you are still considered first generation. If they don't receive one before you are awarded the Dorrance Scholarship you would still be eligible.

What if my parent gets their bachelor's degree after I am already a Dorrance Scholar?

You would continue to receive the Dorrance Scholarship if you complete all of our renewal requirements.

What if my parent(s) have a degree from a different country and it is not recognized in the US?

If the degree is the equivalent of a 4-year bachelor's degree you are not considered first generation and are not eligible to receive the Dorrance Scholarship.

Defining Financial Need:

If my parents make xxx amount of money, do I qualify?

We base financial eligibility off your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) which is calculated based on your responses on your Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA). It takes many factors into consideration beyond household income alone. If you think your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) may be too high, please contact our office to speak with someone about your FAFSA results. You can call our office at 408-405-2410 or email Nicole Conover at nconover@dorrancescholarship.org.

What if I don't qualify for a Pell grant?

The Dorrance Scholarship committee will consider you regardless of your Pell grant eligibility. (See question above)

What if I already have my tuition covered by another scholarship?

The Dorrance award can be applied to all costs of attendance: tuition, fees, books, dorm, meals plan and transportation. You can find the total cost of attendance for your university on its website. The Dorrance Scholarship will be deposited into your financial aid account at your university each semester. If tuition is covered by other funding, this scholarship can be used to pay other charges on your account.

Can I still get this scholarship if I have other scholarships?

Yes! Our scholarship is stackable, which means you can add it to other types of aid that you receive, but only up to the total cost of attendance, i.e., you may not be over-awarded.



If you have additional questions, please reach out to our staff:

Nicole Conover at nconover@dorrancescholarship.org or 480-405-2410

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Academic Requirements:

What if I don't meet the GPA or SAT/ACT requirements by the deadline?

If your GPA or test scores do not meet our minimum, the selection committee will not consider your application. We encourage you to spend your time applying for scholarships where you meet the eligibility criteria. Our deadline is 5:00pm on February 6th, 2019. Late applications will not be considered.

Can I attend community college first and then apply for the Dorrance Scholarship?

The selection committee will only consider applicants applying during their senior year in high school and will only make awards to students going directly from high school to one of Arizona's three public universities.

Are there specific majors you award the scholarship to?

No! We do not favor any one major over another. If you are unsure what you'd like to major in that's okay too! You can apply as an "undeclared" major. Our program and staff will try to help you decide.

What if my major isn't at the main campus?

All students must be enrolled in a degree program offered at either ASU – Tempe, NAU – Flagstaff, or UA – Tucson. If you are planning to major in something offered only at another campus, like ASU – Downtown, you are not eligible to receive the Dorrance Scholarship.

Why can't I attend ASU – Downtown or West campuses?

The intent of the award is not to support every major offered, but to ensure that Dorrance Scholars will have a traditional campus experience, where they can easily participate in a rich campus life. The variety and number of activities and opportunities are on the main residential Tempe campus. The Tempe campus offers a greater variety of community/neighborhood options than do the West or downtown campuses. Additionally, our program is based on a cohort model, requires living on campus for freshman and sophomore year, and includes frequent meetings which are held in our office in Tempe.