

# American Dream Scholarship Application

---

The American Dream Scholarship is available to first time college students who enroll at Oakton Community College after their high school graduation from an accredited high school or GED completion. Students who have attended another college prior to Oakton are not eligible for the scholarship.

Return this completed form to Room 1740 (Des Plaines) or Room A100 (Skokie).

## Eligibility Requirements

- Has a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status, International Student Visa, or undocumented status.
- Enroll and maintain at least half time enrollment. A minimum of six credits in the fall and spring semesters, and a minimum of three credits in the summer semesters. (*Students should be aware that periodic checks will be made to ensure that the student is actively enrolled in classes*).
- Demonstrate progress in completing his/her academic plan.
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 for all coursework completed at Oakton or be a new student to Oakton.
- Continue enrollment at Oakton Community College. If a student transfers to another college or “stops out,” excluding summer, the scholarship is terminated. Students who “transfer back” or want to use the award only for summer term are not eligible.

## Application Deadline

September 1, 2020 (fall), February 1, 2021 (spring). Applications received late will receive consideration if funds are available.

## Award

\$500-\$1,500 annually, not to exceed tuition and fees (registration, activity, construction, and lab/course). Due to limited funding, every request may not be approved. In order to be eligible for funding for a subsequent semester, students must maintain all eligibility requirements.

## Procedures

Students interested in this funding must submit a complete application in person to the Enrollment Center. To be considered, all submissions must include the following:

- Completed application
- Personal essay
- 2019 Federal Income Tax Forms or 2019 W-2 forms
- Two most recent pay stubs
- Official high school transcript or GED certificate
- Copy of DACA authorization or International Student Visa
- Academic plan created with academic advisor for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

If you are not able to provide income tax forms, W-2 forms, or pay stubs, please provide an explanation in your essay.

Each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Strength of academic program, educational goals, grade point average, application content and quality, essay quality, financial need, and/or special circumstances may all be considered for awarding scholarships. Students are notified regarding the decision within three weeks from application deadline and the decision will be communicated via postal mail. All decisions are final; not all applications will be funded.

**Student Information** *(Please type or print information)*

_____	_____	<b>B</b> _____
Last Name	First Name	Oakton Student ID Number
_____	_____	_____
Address	City	State/Zip Code
_____	_____	_____
Daytime/Cell Phone Number	Email Address	
_____	_____	
Major/Intended Degree	Intended Graduation Date	

Application for:  Fall     Spring

**Personal Essay**—Answer each of the following questions on a separate one page or more, double-spaced, typed sheet and attach to form.

The essay should address all questions to help the committee better understand your situation and needs. Essays should be at least 250-500 words.

- 1) Explain your present financial and family situation and how this scholarship will help you.
- 2) Describe your academic goals at Oakton and beyond. Include your educational goals and career interests and your plans to meet these goals.
- 3) Describe any other information that may set you apart from other applicants. This could include special circumstances, such as caring for family, work obligations, academic and personal achievements, unique talents, leadership experiences, extracurricular activities, or service commitments.

**Certification**

All information on this application is correct, accurate, and truthful.

I certify that any information found to be purposely false or misleading will result in the cancellation of any Student Government Association (SGA) American Dream Scholarship, and the student will immediately need to repay any funding received.

I hereby authorize Oakton Community College permission to release information about my academic and financial status, and any other scholarship eligibility criteria including my personal statement, if applicable, to those involved in the scholarship selection process and/or the donor.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



*Funded by the Student Government Association*