

Riverside Community College District Scholarships

Scholarships are available to all students at Riverside Community College based on either:

- *Financial need, referred to as need-based*
- *Grades/Academic performance, referred to as merit-based*

The qualifications within these two groups vary, such as your selected major, career goal, GPA, and club involvement.

RCCD FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP BROCHURE

Riverside Community College District offers scholarships for continuing and transferring students which are listed in our Scholarship Brochure. The brochure is available every fall semester and includes scholarships with a variety of criteria regarding majors, GPA, etc. The brochure also includes a scholarship application, personal essay form, evaluation forms and instruction on how to apply. The deadline is in early December. Scholarship information workshops are held at each campus prior to the scholarship deadline date to help students with information on how to write their personal essay and other tips.

Recipients are chosen by Donors and a Riverside Community College District Scholarship Committee. Attendance at an award ceremony is mandatory as listed in the brochure and on award letters. Recipients must also adhere to any other requirements (such as GPA). If, for any reason, the chosen recipient does not meet the requirements, an alternate will be chosen.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP BROCHURE

The Riverside Community College High School Senior Scholarship Brochure is available during the spring semester each year. This brochure contains scholarships to be awarded to high school seniors who will be attending Riverside Community College during the upcoming academic year. There are a variety of scholarships offered based on major, GPA, career goals, and club involvement.

HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Riverside Community College offers on \$300 scholarship to each Riverside District high school to recognize one student of their choice who has a cumulative 3.5 high school GPA and would benefit from the \$300 scholarship for attendance at Riverside Community College District. This allows each high school the opportunity to be directly involved in the selection of the student that they feel would benefit from this award. Contact your high school counselor for more information regarding this award.

COMMUNITY SCHOLARS

The Community Scholars Program is a joint endeavor of The Community Foundation, Riverside Community College District Foundation, California Baptist University, La Sierra University, the University of Redlands and other generous philanthropists in our community who share a commitment to education. The objective of this scholarship is to reward students who have shown excellence in scholastic achievement, community involvement and mastery of knowledge while in local high schools. The philosophy of the scholarship is to encourage outstanding high school seniors from Riverside County to pursue their collegiate studies at Riverside Community College for two years and

to meet the requirements for transfer and acceptance to one of the participating four-year universities that the student selects at the time of application. This scholarship is competitive.

The Community Scholars Program criteria are as follows:

- Must be a current high school senior who is a Riverside County resident and will be graduating from a Riverside County high school during the current academic year.
- Must be a United States citizen, permanent resident, immigrant, or refugee. Students here on an F-1 Visa are not eligible.

The Community Scholars Program is valued at \$7,000 and is disbursed over a four-year period. The recipients will receive \$1,000 per year for two years while at Riverside Community College and \$2,500 per year for two years at California Baptist University, La Sierra University, and the University of Redlands.

In addition to the monetary amount of \$7,000 for this scholarship, recipients will benefit from the joint counseling sessions with Riverside Community College District and university counseling staff. The Riverside Community College District and university admissions representatives will answer questions about transferring, general education requirements, major requirements and application deadlines. The Riverside Community College District counselor will review with you your transferring university's articulation agreement and give individualized counseling regarding classes at Riverside Community College District and the completion of the transfer process within the two-year time limit.

Other Scholarship Resources

Scholarships can provide the necessary financial assistance to assist students in successfully obtaining their educational goals. Riverside Community college offers scholarships through its Foundation office and generous donors. These RCCD Scholarships are available for application every fall semester using the RCCD Scholarship Brochure and Application. However, the RCCD brochure is not the only source of scholarships for students. There are many other resources and opportunities for students to find scholarships outside of Riverside Community College. Please consider the following ideas in your search for scholarships.

- Some outside scholarships and their eligibility requirements from sources outside RCCD such as civic organizations, clubs, associations and businesses are listed on this website under "Outside Scholarship list." This list is updated periodically as new scholarship information is received. The list is provided as information for possible scholarship resources, but it is up to you, the student, to follow the directions for application and follow-up for these scholarships.
- Use free Scholarship Search sites on the internet. Some recommended sites include:
www.fastweb.com
www.scholarshiphunter.com
www.scholarships.com
www.scholarsite.com

- Check with community, non-profit, and membership organizations, clubs, university alumni groups, churches, employers, high schools, corporations, businesses, associations, libraries, etc. for possible scholarships from these sources.
- Beware of Scholarship scams! Any group that requires you to pay for scholarship information could be a scam. Watch out for high pressure groups. If it sounds too good to be true or they make promises or guarantees of scholarships, then it probably is a scam. Check out scam information at: www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

Scholarship Tips

Get Organized: Create a Personal Inventory and/or write a resume. This will help you when you write your personal essay or your donor wants to know more about you. Include accomplishments, awards, talents, interests, college major, career plans, extra-curricular activities, club and community involvement, volunteer service. Keep a log of scholarships and their deadlines.

Applying for Scholarships: Apply to as many as you can. Pay attention to eligibility criteria. But don't apply if you don't meet the qualifications. Be sure to apply before the deadline. Follow the directions exactly and remember neatness counts; proofread and double-check spelling and grammar.

Personal Essay: Start with an outline. Follow directions and answer the essay question, if any. Know your audience and catch their attention. Use personal examples and comment on your past, present and future. Keep your essay short and to the point; don't run on and on or be too idealistic. Neatness counts, be sure to type your essay. Be sure spelling and grammar are perfect!

Evaluations or Recommendation Letters: Ask the appropriate people – teachers, employers NOT family or friends. Ask early – give them time to write a great recommendation. .

Disbursement Information for RCCD Scholarships

Scholarships applied for in the fall semester are disbursed in the fall and spring semesters of the *next* academic year. Please remember the following information as noted in the RCC Scholarship Brochure:

- If you apply for Scholarships using the RCC Scholarship Brochure and Application, available in the fall semester, you will be notified by mail of your application status in early May of the next

spring semester. Notification will be mailed to the address listed on the scholarship application. If your address changes between December and May, please notify the scholarship coordinator in the Student Financial Services office *and* change your address with RCC Admissions & Records.

- Attendance at a scholarship award ceremony is mandatory to receive your scholarship. Award ceremony information will be included in the award letter. If you do not attend the award ceremony, your scholarship will be awarded to an alternate.
- For students awarded a scholarship to be used as a continuing RCC student, the fall semester portion of the scholarship will be mailed to the address which is on file with the RCC Admissions Department. It will be mailed approximately one week before the fall semester begins, after verification of enrollment in 12 or more units for the fall semester at Riverside Community College.
- The spring semester portion of the scholarship will be mailed at the beginning of the spring semester, upon verification of enrollment in 12 or more units for the spring semester at Riverside Community College. Also, to be eligible for the spring scholarship disbursement you must have completed 12 or more units during the previous fall semester with the GPA required by the scholarship.
- If a scholarship recipient does not complete 12 or more units during the fall semester with the GPA required by the scholarship and/or does not enroll in 12 or more units for the fall or spring semesters, the scholarship will be awarded to an alternate.
- For students awarded a transferable scholarship, the funds will be sent directly to the recipient's four-year institution in August before the fall semester. You must return the Transfer School Notification form included in your scholarship award letter so that we have record of where to send the scholarship funds.

Accessing your Outside Scholarships at RCCD

If you are awarded a scholarship from a source outside of Riverside Community College, the procedure to use your scholarship at RCCD is as follows:

1. The organization or donor providing the scholarship will contact you if they have chosen you as the recipient of their scholarship.
2. Follow the donor's directions on how to access your scholarship. They may require proof of enrollment at RCC. You may submit your class schedule printed from WebAdvisor, or, if they are requesting "official" proof of enrollment, contact the RCC Transcripts & Records office at 951-222-8603.

3. For students who received the Golden State Scholarshare scholarship: you may access your scholarship funds by completing the Qualified Withdrawal Form and submitting it to Golden State Scholarshare. The Qualified Withdrawal Form is available at www.scholarshare.com. For help in filling out the form, call 1-877-728-4338.
4. Once RCC receives your scholarship, you will be sent a letter acknowledging receipt of the funds along with a Scholarship Action Form and schedule of deadlines (see below).
5. Fill out the Scholarship Action Form and return it to the Student Financial Services office on any campus at RCC.
6. The Scholarship Action Form will let us know how you will use your scholarship at RCC. For example: pay for Tuition and fees; set up a bookstore account at any campus bookstore; reimburse for tuition and fees already paid for; or reimburse for books already purchased (with receipt). Some scholarships may also allow reimbursement for room and board expenses.
7. At the end of the academic year, you will be sent a letter regarding any remaining balance of scholarship funds. It is your responsibility to use your scholarship at RCC. All unused scholarship funds will be returned to the donor.

Please refer to the chart below for deadlines and processing dates for outside scholarships. For example: If you turn in your Scholarship Action Form by 6/11/2007 and you request a bookstore account, it will be available to buy books on 6/18/07. If you request your Admission and Records fees to be paid, they will be paid by approximately 7/9/07. If you request a reimbursement for fees paid or books bought (with receipt) it will be mailed approximately 7/9/07. Please note the date the bookstore accounts will be closed for each semester and make your final purchases before that date (you will be sent a reminder letter that the bookstore accounts will be closing). Scholarship Balance letters will be mailed on the dates indicated listing your remaining scholarship balance and including a new Scholarship Action Form to use in the next semester.

Deadline to Submit Scholarship Action Form	Bookstore Account Available (Upon verification of enrollment in classes)	Fees paid to Admissions & Records (if requested)	Reimbursement Check to Student (if requested and upon verification of receipts and eligibility)	Bookstore Accounts Closed	Scholarship Balance Letter mailed
6/11/2007	6/18/2007	7/9/2007	7/9/2007	Summer Semester Accounts: 8/27/07	n/a
6/26/2007	7/3/2007	Bookstore only			
7/23/2007	None-Checks only	8/20/2007	8/20/2007		
8/20/2007	8/27/2007	9/17/2007	9/17/2007	Fall Semester Accounts: 12/17/07	12/21/2007
9/7/2007	9/13/2007	Bookstore only			
9/17/2007	9/24/2007	10/2/2007	10/2/2007		
10/22/2007	10/29/2007	11/19/2007	11/19/2007		
11/19/2007	None-Checks only	12/17/2007	12/17/2007		
12/17/2007	1/7/2008	1/15/2008	1/15/2008	Winter Semester Accounts: 2/11/08	n/a
1/14/2008	1/22/2008	Bookstore only			
1/24/2008	None-Checks only	2/19/2008	2/19/2008		
2/11/2008	2/18/2008	3/10/2008	3/10/2008	Spring Semester Accounts: 6/2/08	6/9/2008
2/22/2008	2/28/2008	Bookstore only			
3/17/2008	3/24/2008	4/21/2008	4/21/2008		
4/21/2008	4/28/2008	5/19/2008	5/19/2008		
5/19/2008	None-Checks only	6/16/2008	6/16/2008		