

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Saddleback Foundation Scholarship Application Instructions

Eligible Students:

1. College of Record is **Saddleback College**.
2. Completed a minimum of 3 units, however, Osher scholarships require 6 units minimum.
3. Have a minimum 2.0 GPA on record.

Scan the QR code below to get to the Saddleback College Foundation page.

(<https://www.saddleback.edu/administration/office-president/saddleback-college-foundation>)



Next: Once there, scroll down to *Scholarships* and click on **Apply for Scholarships**, as shown below.

Foundation Team

Guided by a group of dedicated community leaders who advocate for the college, the Foundation strives to make higher education attainable for all in south Orange County.

The Saddleback College Foundation is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes as an IRS 501(c)3, **Tax ID #33-0390547**.

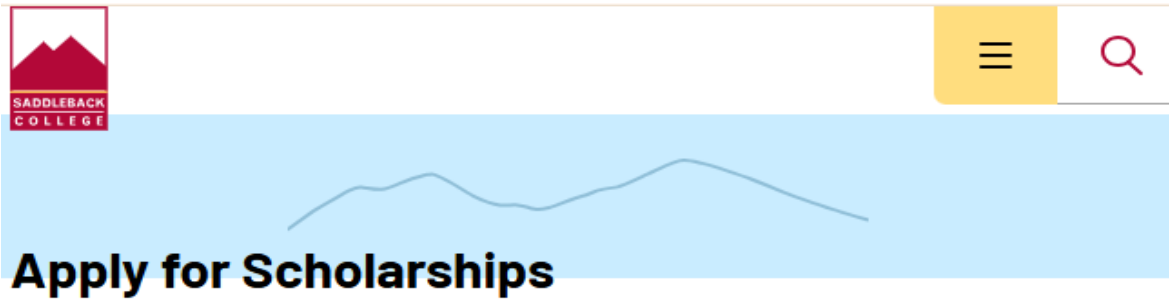
Scholarships

Each year the Foundation awards hundreds of scholarships to deserving students at their Scholarship Awards Ceremony. Scholarships are made possible thanks to the generous gifts made by our donors and the Saddleback College community.

Apply for Scholarships →



Next: Read the scholarship directions before clicking the **Apply for a Scholarship** link.



Scholarships are available for returning or transferring students for next Fall Semester. Don't miss this opportunity to apply for FREE scholarships!

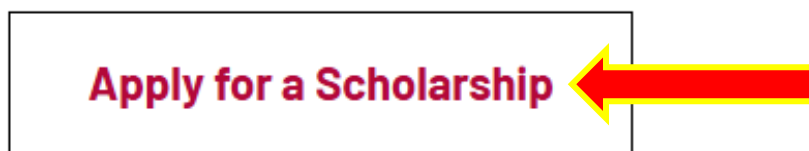
Saddleback College Foundation Scholarships Applications are open from **January** through **February**.

Qualifying for a scholarship does not guarantee you will receive one.

To be eligible for a Saddleback College Foundation Scholarship, you must meet the following criteria:

1. College of Record must be **Saddleback College**
2. Completed a minimum of 3 units, however, Osher scholarships require 6 units minimum completed.
3. Have a minimum 2.0 GPA on record.

External Scholarships Applications are open from the beginning of June through mid-December. External scholarships are provided by organizations outside our institution and have a variety of requirements. For questions about these opportunities, please reach out directly to the sponsoring agencies who will have current and detailed information. Our Financial Aid Department and Foundation Office focus on internal scholarships and won't be able to assist with external scholarship inquiries.



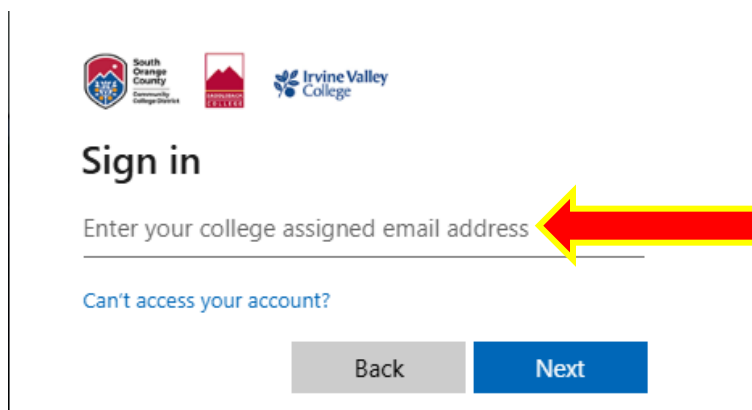
If you need assistance, please contact the Foundation Office during office hours.

Next: The **Apply for a Scholarship** link will take you into the Scholarship Universe platform.

Once you access the Scholarship Universe platform:

Returning Applicants: If you have applied for Saddleback College Foundation scholarships in the past, clicking the link will take you to your Scholarship Universe Dashboard.

New Applicants: If this is the first time applying for scholarships, sign in with your **Saddleback College email address**.



You will receive an email from Saddleback College Foundation to verify your email address. Click the link in the email to verify your email address and start the application process.



Dear Student,

Congratulations on creating your Saddleback College Foundation Scholarship Universe account! Your account will help you access a collection of scholarships tailored to you.

Check back in to stay up to date on relevant information related to deadlines, scholarship status updates, and notifications about your applications.

Please click the [Verify Email Link](#) to verify your email address and get started!

Should you have any questions, please contact the Foundation Office at 949-582-4479 during office hours, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

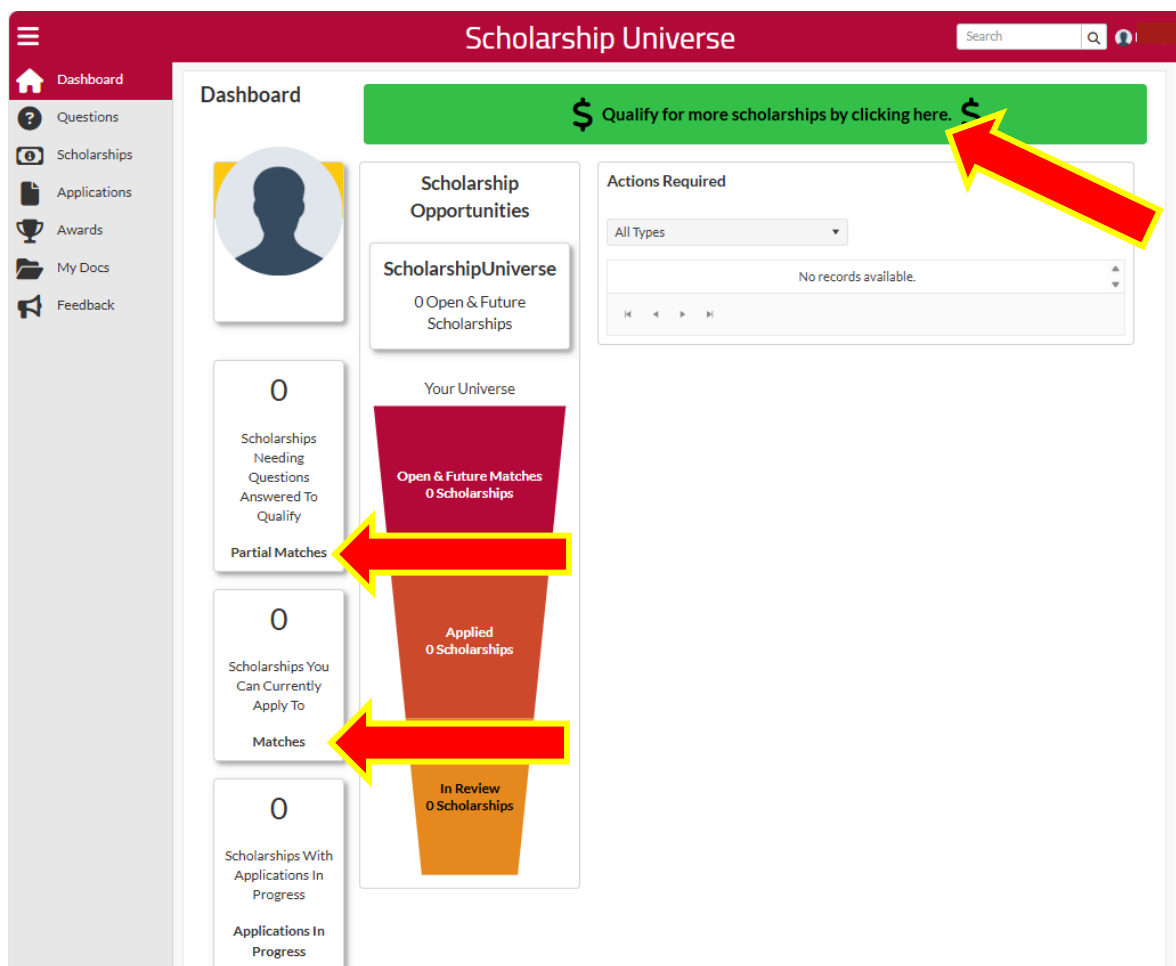
Sincerely,
Saddleback College Foundation



Saddleback College 28000 Marguerite Parkway | Mission Viejo, California 92692 | (949) 582-4500 | saddleback.edu

Once you verify your email, you will be able to access the Scholarship Universe platform.

1. Your landing page is the Scholarship Universe Dashboard. Click the green bar at the top of the page to start the process. First, you will need to answer questions.
2. For Saddleback College Foundation scholarships (applying January through February), answer ALL the questions before applying to any named scholarship. This will make sure you pull into all the scholarships you qualify for based on your answers and your student information record at Saddleback College.
3. After all questions are answered, next fill out the **Saddleback College Foundation Scholarship application** before any other applications. This is the main scholarship application that is scored for awarding a scholarship.



4. You may apply to scholarships in the 'Matches' section. The Scholarships tab at the far left lists the scholarships in the platform but will not let you access them here.
5. The scholarships in the 'Partial Matches' section have some answers that do not match your answers. If you believe you should match to a scholarship, you may change your answers to match to that scholarship by clicking on the edit icon.

Lastly: You will receive a confirmation email, upon submittal of your application(s) as shown below.



Dear Student,

Thank you for submitting your Scholarship Applications.

Nothing more needs to be done. Please note that application reviews take place from **mid-March through mid-April**. You will be notified by email on the status of your Saddleback College Foundation Scholarship applications by the beginning of May.

Sincerely,
Saddleback College Foundation



Good luck!

Need help? Contact Foundation staff: Emily Cramer, ecramer@saddleback.edu.

External Scholarships are included in the Scholarships Universe platform and are accessible at the beginning of June. Click back into the platform if you wish to view these outside agencies' scholarships from June through mid-December. The more questions you answer, the more scholarships into which you will pull. If you cannot answer a question, click NA or go on to the next question. Please do not call the Financial Aid Department or the Foundation Office about the External Scholarship questions.

For questions about these opportunities, **please reach out directly to the sponsoring agencies** who will have the most current and detailed information. Our Financial Aid Department and Foundation Office focus on internal scholarships and will not be able to assist with external scholarship inquiries.

***Continue reading for insight to the General Scholarship Application's main questions.**

Information on the Foundation General Scholarship Application's Main Questions with Notes

The Foundation General Application has a list of questions to answer and four essay questions to complete. Your application score is based on these four essay type questions. We recommend you format and save your essays in a word document before copying and pasting each one into the scholarship platform question. By doing this, you have a backup copy to submit should anything happen to your response.

When writing your responses, stay on topic, avoid unnecessary information since each one is only 250 words maximum, and answer each part of the question. If you can, try writing your responses over more than one day and read it over before finalizing to catch what you may have missed. Content is more important than the length of your piece.

Question 1:

Write briefly about a “personal challenge” and how you overcame that challenge that resulted in a positive outcome. (250 word max.) (A personal challenge is something you alone face that requires great effort and determination to overcome or fix.) **DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE PARAGRAPH.**

Note: Challenges come in big and small sizes. Do not rule something out if you think it ultimately had a **positive impact on your life.**

Question 2:

What is your major and what are your plans once you graduate from Saddleback? (250 word max.) (Will you continue studying your major at a four-year institution then on to your selected career or are you receiving a certificate that will help you land your preferred job?) **DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE PARAGRAPH**

Note: Focus on what you know. While you may not have a precise major picked out (ex: Chemistry), you may have a general area in mind (ex: STEM field).

Use concrete language wherever possible. Instead of “I want a career helping people.” Consider, “I’m interested in working at a hospital because I enjoy helping people.”

Question 3:

Write briefly about a time you helped or supported a person or group and made a positive impact. What did you do and what was the outcome? (250 word max.) **DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE PARAGRAPH.**

Note: Like challenges, helping comes in big and small sizes. Do not rule something out if you think it had a **positive impact on your life.**

Question 4:

In a brief paragraph, explain to the person (donor) giving a scholarship, what it means to you to receive their scholarship. (250 word max.) DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN THE PARAGRAPH.

Note: The award money is meant to help you do something important with your education, and this question is a good place to talk about that, such as helping you commute to school, manage childcare, or paying for expensive textbooks to help you succeed in your classes. Also, an expression of gratitude for the financial assistance should be included.

Give yourself plenty of time to finish your questions without rushing.

The Deadline for application submittal is 3/2/2026 at 11:59 p.m. Applications submitted after this time will not be considered.