NOT EVEN THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

Nearly $150 million in scholarships awarded in the nation’s largest scholarships to high-achieving students with financial need
Today’s Agenda

Why should you apply?

How to apply?

What is the selection process?

Some pro-tips 😊

Q&A
Today’s Agenda

Why should you apply?

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Q&A
Transfer to your dream school and major

Program Benefits
Current Saddleback Cooke Scholars
- Bioengineering, UC San Diego
- Biochemistry Pre-Dental, UC Los Angeles
- Environmental Economics and Policy, UC Berkeley
- Political Science, Columbia
- Film, multiple schools

Other Scholars
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-med
- Business
- Law
- Social Sciences
- Music
Transfer to your dream school and major

Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree

Program Benefits
Financial Support

Receive up to $40,000 per year to transfer to a four-year accredited undergraduate institution for:
- Tuition
- Rent and living expenses
- School Health Insurance
- Books
- Transportation
- Other Fees
Transfer to your dream school and major

Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree

Freedom to focus on learning

Program Benefits
UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP

INTERN WANTED

VOLUNTEER
Transfer to your dream school and major

Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree

Freedom to focus on learning

Study abroad and summer project funding*

Advising Support

Program Benefits
Advising Support

Have access to advising about:

- Navigating college choices
- Understanding financial aid
- Transitioning to college
- Maximizing the college experience
Program Benefits

- Transfer to your dream school and major
- Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree
- Freedom to focus on learning
- Graduate School Funding up to $50,000/yr
- Study abroad and summer project funding*
- Advising Support
Graduate School Funding

Be automatically eligible for up to $50,000 a year of graduate school funding for up to 4 years after successful completion of college.
Transfer to your dream school and major

Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree

Freedom to focus on learning

Study abroad and summer project funding*

Program Benefits

Scholars Weekend

Graduate School Funding up to $50,000/yr

Advising Support
Scholars Weekend

- Attend a scholarship gathering like none other

- Over 400 Cooke Scholars convene each year in August
  - Celebrate new Cooke Scholars
  - Share amazing leadership and service experiences
Transfer to your dream school and major

Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree

Freedom to focus on learning

Scholar Community & Network

Program Benefits

Study abroad and summer project funding*

Scholars Weekend

Graduate School Funding up to $50,000/yr

Advising Support
Scholar Community and Network

Have a community and network of scholars that spans the country and globe. Currently there are 1,040 Cooke alumni.

Access to leadership and service opportunities within the scholar community and beyond.
Transfer to your dream school and major

Receive up to $40,000*/yr towards your degree

Freedom to focus on learning

Scholar Community & Network

Program Benefits

Study abroad and summer project funding*

Scholars Weekend

Graduate School Funding up to $50,000/yr

Advising Support
Who is the Cooke Scholar?
Film, Accepted to Multiple Schools (2016 Scholar) (email me if you need to be connected to him)
Political Science, Columbia University (2016 Scholar)
- ASG Vice President
- International and Diversity Student Council Director
- Phi Theta Kappa President
- Pre-Law Society founder and president
- Active in several campaigns
- English tutor
Biochemistry, UC Los Angeles (2015 Scholar)
- Biomedical Summer Research
  - UCI
  - Chapman University
- Volunteering at several organizations off-campus
- Astronomy and Physics Club Officer
- Circle K and Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society
- Chemistry, Physics and Statistics Tutor
Environmental Economics and Policy, UC Berkeley (2015 Scholar)

- Clerical Assistant at a law firm
- Treasurer Circle K International
- Dean’s List
Bioengineering, UC San Diego (2014 Scholars)
- Astronomy and Physics Club Co-Presidents
- HHMI Research @Cal State Fullerton
- Organic Chemistry Research
- Math and Science tutors
  - Biochemistry SI
  - Physics SI
- Biomedical Eng. Department Volunteer, Mission Hospital
- Peer2Peer Mentorship Program Co-Founders
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Q&A
Eligibility

- Be a current student at an accredited US community college or two-year institution with sophomore status
  
  OR

- a recent graduate of community college (last five years)

Citizen
Permanent Resident
International Student
Undocumented Student
Eligibility

- Have a minimum 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Plan to enroll in a full-time baccalaureate program at an accredited college or university in the fall of 2017
Demonstrate significant unmet financial need. We will consider applicants with family income up to $95,000. However, we anticipate that a majority of scholarship recipients will be eligible to receive a Pell grant.
Selection Criteria

• Achievement and academic ability

• Financial need

• Persistence

• Leadership

• Desire to help others
Application Components

- Student Academics/Activities/Honors
- Recommendations
- Short Answer and Essay Questions
- Financial Forms (Parent/Self)
- Official transcripts
Recommendation Form

Applicant Assessment

Please respond to the following questions, providing comments or explanations as requested. The scaled questions include four anchor-point descriptions (1, 3, 5, and 7) with blanks in between (2, 4, and 6). Please use the 1-to-7 continuum to rate the student using the descriptions for reference.

1. On a scale of 1 to 7, which best describes the applicant's concern for others?

2. In your observation of this applicant working with others, how well does he/she serve in the following roles within a group?
   1. Listener
   2. Collaborator
   3. Organizer
   4. Hard worker

3. On a scale of 1 to 7, how would you rate the applicant's ability to motivate others and serve as a positive role model?

4. Jack Kent Cooke Scholars inspire and influence those around them in ways both apparent and subtle. Share an example to help us better understand this student's leadership qualities and how they interact with others.
5. When this applicant receives constructive feedback, he/she:

6. On a scale of 1 to 7, how would you rate the applicant's writing ability?

7. On a scale of 1 to 7, which best describes the applicant's critical thinking?

8. On a scale of 1 to 7, which best describes the applicant's academic ability?

9. Share an example or two to help us better understand this student's academic and/or intellectual ability.

10. Compared to the other students you teach in the classroom or interact with in your position, how frequently does the applicant do the following:

1. Ask questions in or after class or during your meetings to intellectually explore the subject matter.

2. Seeks suggestions from you for additional resources on the subject matter (websites, books, etc.)

11. Share an example or two that demonstrates the student's enthusiasm for learning.
Strategies to Approach the Writing

• What is the prompt asking? Rephrasing the prompt.
• Think about what you are going to write and organize your thoughts before you start writing.
• Use clear, concise and simple language throughout the essay.
• Bring out the creative writer. BE POSITIVE.
• Proofread
• Have others read your essays
Essay Questions

**Short Answer**
Scholars are committed to making the world a better place. They are inventing solutions, advocating for others, and giving back to their communities. However, most started with small steps. What steps, big or small, have you taken to make your own impact on the world? (Limit 600 Characters/100 Words~)

**Essay**
What is very important and under discussed? (Limit 1800 Characters/325 Words~)
Biographical Essay

This statement should provide information not elicited elsewhere in the application, such as leadership roles, family, educational, philosophical, or other life experiences that have influenced your achievements and career decision. Also include professional and civic activities that you consider important. The narrative should be concise, emphasizing those areas most important to your intellectual development. (Limit 3000 Characters/500 Words~)

- Be yourself
- Be positive
- Focus on outcome of experiences and how they have shaped you
Suggested Essay Breakdown

- **Who you are**
  - Background
  - Hardships you overcame (Focus on outcome)

- **Why you chose your field of study**
  - How did you become interested in your field
  - What have you done that has prepared you to be successful in your field

- **How you envision your future**
  - Paint a picture of your life after graduation
  - How you want to give back to the world
Financial Documents (Parents, if under 30 & Self)

Taxes

- 2013 and 2014: 1040 forms only
- no schedules or attachments
- 2015: all forms, including 1040 form(s), W-2 form(s), schedules, and attachments
General Tips/Common Mistakes

• **Begin right away.** Many students don’t allow for enough time to complete the application.

• **Follow up with your recommenders, parents/guardians, et al.** Students often focus only on their part of the application and then forget to remind the other people to complete their parts.

• **Finish the application.** Many students start the application and even get very far in the process but do not submit by the deadline. Set a reminder for the deadline, **October 25th.**
Pro-Tips

- Have a mentor for the scholarship
  - e.g. professor, adviser, US!!!
- Benefits of just applying
  - Use essays & recommendations for 4-year apps
  - Reflection
- Strongly consider applying to selective four-year universities
  - Financial Aid
  - Resources
  - Lifetime experiences
- Apply to at least two schools in each of the following categories: Reach, Possible, and Likely.
Timeline

August 25th, 2016
Application Opens

October 25th, 2016
Application Deadline

November 2016 – March 2017
Applications reviewed by scholarship committee

Early April 2016
Scholarship recipients notified
Additional Help and Info

Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship application period
August 25th through October 25th

Questions?
Call toll-free: (571) 209-1771
Email: scholarships@jkcf.org

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Believe and Take Action!

Questions?