



SCHOLARSHIPS OVERVIEW

Fall 2026

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AGENDA

- **Cerritos College Foundation**
- **Scholarships**
- **Cerritos College Opportunities**
- **Application Process**
- **Next Steps**
- **Closing Remarks**



CERRITOS COLLEGE FOUNDATION

CERRITOS COLLEGE FOUNDATION (CCF)

Established in 1979, the Cerritos College Foundation is a philanthropic, nonprofit organization led by committed individuals from the community. We partner with our generous Cerritos College retirees, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, corporate sponsors, and the community to create opportunities for our diverse student body.

OVERVIEW

- Scholarships
- Donations/Charitable Giving
- Alumni Relations





SCHOLARSHIPS

WHAT IS A SCHOLARSHIP?

“A scholarship is a **form of financial aid** awarded to students. Generally, scholarships are **awarded based on a set of criteria** such as academic merit, athletic skill, and financial need or specific professional experience” (*Wikipedia*)

OVERVIEW

- **MONEY** that doesn't need to be paid back
- Used to offset some of the costs of attending college
- Delivered via check or deposited through Financial Aid
- Not connected with government aid, but might use government aid calculator (FAFSA, unmet need)



MERIT VS NEEDS BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

MERIT

- Based on factors such as **academic, personal, and/or exceptional talents**
- Students must meet certain requirements and/or are ranked by reviewers
 - Major specific (STEM, nursing, etc.)
 - GPA (3.0+, 3.5+)
 - Units completed
 - Involvement, Volunteering, Leadership
 - Military, Foster Youth, Re-Entry
 - Geographic (Downey Unified Grad)

NEEDS

- Based on individual or familial **economic factors**
- Must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
 - FAFSA asks a series of questions about parents' and/or students' income, assets, and other factors to determine how much need-based federal aid they might qualify for

STEPS TO A SCHOLARSHIP

1

MEET CRITERIA

Find a scholarship where you meet minimum criteria

- *GPA (HS or college)*
- *Major/Coursework*
- *Units*
- *Intention (transfer)*
- *Involvement*
- *Financial need*
- *Recommendations*

2

DRAFT & PROOFREAD

Draft your essay responses and seek assistance

- *Peers*
- *Friends*
- *Family*
- *Professors*
- *Foundation Office*
- *Student Success Center*
- *Career Services*

3

SUBMIT REQUIREMENTS

Submit all requirements BEFORE the deadline

- *Personal/academic details*
- *Unofficial transcripts*
- *Personal statement*
- *Essay prompts*
- *Letter(s) of Recommendation*

4

PROVIDER CHECK-IN

Follow up with scholarship provider

- *Award Timeline*
- *Decision timeline*
- *Follow Up*
 - *Email*
 - *Phone*
 - *Office*
 - *Website*



CERRITOS COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

CERRITOS COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

- Only offered to active Cerritos College students
- Different scholarships each semester
- 50+ individual scholarships
- Awards beginning at \$500
- Both merit & need-based scholarships
- Historically, 1 in 5 applicants receive an award
- If awarded, must attend Scholarship Reception (12/3/2026) & submit 'thank you' letter



FALL 2026 SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINE

Fall 2026 semester begins August 17 and ends December 18



**APPLICATIONS
OPEN**



**WORKSHOPS &
LABS**



**APPLICATIONS
CLOSE**



**AWARD
NOTIFICATION**



**SCHOLARSHIP
CEREMONY**

CCF SCHOLARSHIP CHECKLIST

- Create AwardSpring Account or Sign-In
- Download Unofficial Transcript
- Academic Information
 - *ID Number, Units Completed, Units Enrolled, Major, Academic Goals, Transfer Plans, Financial Aid status*
- Involvement and Experience
 - *Clubs, honors, programs, resources (DSPS, Puente, Umoja, MESA, EOP&S), athletics, awards, societies, etc.*
- Personal Statement
- Letters of Recommendation (optional)
- Supplemental Documents (optional)
 - *Portfolio, resume, writing examples, awards, etc.*

Application

GENERAL SECTIONS

Contact Information >

Transcripts >

Academic Information >

Qualification Questions >

Personal Statement >

Optional Letters of Recom... >

Consent & Disclosure Agre... >

DONATE NOW!

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- Teacher TRAC 25th Anniversary Campaign
- Annual Golf Classic
- Job Opportunity
- Contact Us



**DROP DOWN
MENU**

Welcome to Cerritos College Foundation

We Fund Student Futures. [Give now to fund the mission.](#)

EST. 1979

APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS NOW!

FOR STUDENTS: HOW TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



FOR DONORS: HOW TO SET UP A SCHOLARSHIP



DONATE NOW!

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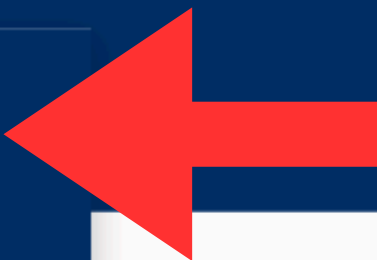


Apply Now

How to Prepare

Establish a Scholarship +

**APPLY
HERE**



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Marisa Perez, Former Cerritos College Board Trustee, with recipients of the Perez-Medrano Scholarship in Fall 2023.

SPRING 2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION IS LIVE UNTIL FEBRUARY 22ND

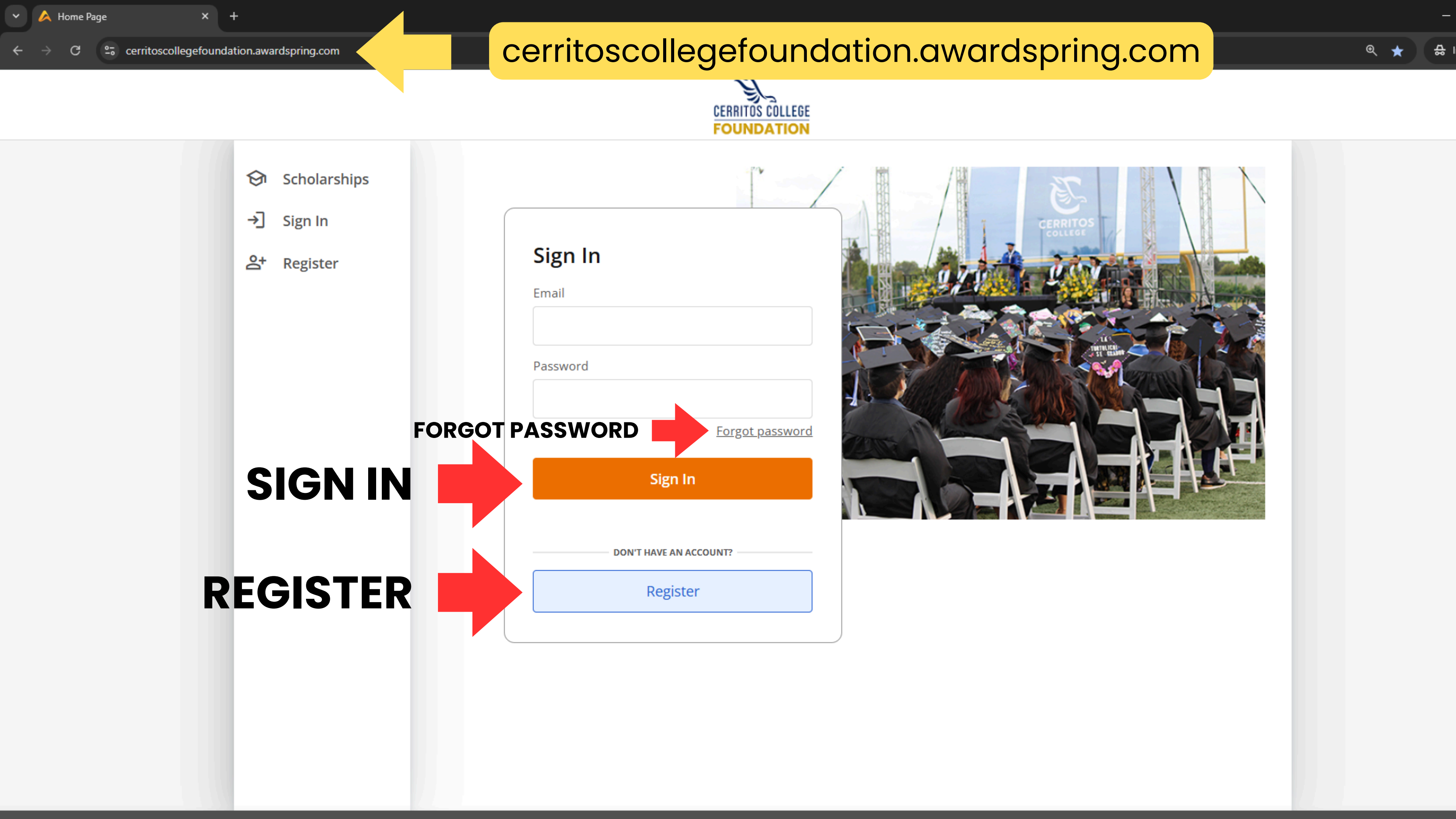
[APPLY VIA AWARDSPRING](#)

**APPLY
HERE**

The Cerritos College Foundation offers scholarships in both the Fall and Spring semesters. You are eligible to apply for a Cerritos College Foundation scholarship if you are an actively enrolled Cerritos College student. For any questions, please call 562-860-2451 ext. 2539 or [click here to complete our online contact form.](#)

The Spring 2026 Scholarship Application will open on Monday, January 12, and close on Sunday, February 22. Click the [AwardSpring](#) link above or copy and paste to your internet browser: <https://cerritoscollegefoundation.awardspring.com/>

[VIEW AWARDSPRING APPLICANT GUIDE](#)



cerritoscollegefoundation.awardspring.com

Scholarships

Sign In

Register

Sign In

Email

Password

FORGOT PASSWORD

[Forgot password](#)

Sign In

DON'T HAVE AN ACCOUNT?

Register

SIGN IN

REGISTER

Register

Already have an account?

[Sign in](#)

Email

Phone

 +1 ▾ 201-555-0123

First Name

Last Name

Password

Confirm Password

Create Account



**VIEW
SCHOLARSHIP LIST**
**COMPLETE
APPLICATION**



MENU



Dashboard



Scholarships



Application

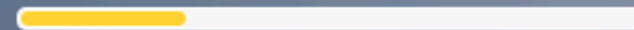
Welcome Eric!

Complete Application

Fill out your application to unlock opportunities.

Once you finish the application, we will automatically match you to all opportunities you're eligible for.

Progress: 25%



APPLY

You have 1 item(s) to complete



Application

Due 2/23/2025 ⓘ

Complete



MENU

🏠 Dashboard

🎓 Scholarships

📄 Application

Scholarships

Filter ▼



FILTER SCHOLARSHIP LIST

Scholarship Name ⬆	Award ⬆	Deadline ⬆	Status
Anil and Sonal Desai Family Endowed Scholarship f... This scholarship was established to promote education for STEM...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
Ben Pendleton Student Veterans Memorial Scholar... This scholarship has been named in honor of Ben Pendleton, lon...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
Cerritos College Dental Assisting Scholarship This scholarship is awarded to outstanding Cerritos College stud...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
Clara Harper's "Well Done" Scholarship Established in the memory of Mrs. Clara Harper, this scholarship...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
Damaris Gradin Child Development Scholarship This scholarship is in memory of Damaris Gradin who died at the...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
Darleene Gomez Memorial Scholarship The Darleene Gomez Memorial Scholarship for Disabled Student...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
DeFrance-Ostroff Family Teacher TRAC Scholarship This scholarship was established by former Instructional Dean of...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	
Dr. Philip C. Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship The scholarship is being established in memory of Dr. Philip C. R...	N/A	📅 Due Feb 23, 2025	



MENU

DashboardScholarshipsApplication Complete

Complete

Complete

Complete

Complete

Complete

Complete

Application for Eric Calderon

Contact Information

Academic Information

In Progress

Qualification Questions

In Progress

Personal Statement

Community Involvement & Volunteer Experience

In Progress

Transcripts

Consent & Disclosure Agreement

Completed

Additional Documents

Completed

- Before beginning, please be sure to read through the list of available scholarships (see the tab on the far left of this application). If you feel you meet the minimum criteria for at least one scholarship, we strongly encourage you to complete the application.
- The list of available scholarships, award amounts, and number of awards are subject to change. Additional scholarships may be added after students submit their application. You will be considered for all scholarships for which you meet the minimum qualifications.
- Please contact the Cerritos College Foundation at foundation@cerritos.edu if you experience any technical difficulties or have questions.

Student ID Number

First Name (legal)

3 word(s) left

Middle Initial (Optional)

PERSONAL STATEMENT QUESTION #1

In a minimum of 400 and maximum of 600 words, please **tell us about yourself including your educational and career goals.** Please feel free to include information that will give us a better understanding of you as an individual and why you should be selected as a scholarship recipient.
(word count: 400–600)

Tips:

- What is your major/career goals and why? What factors helped with that decision?
- Past, present, and future and how it relates to your goals
- Barriers and achievements, involvement and experience

PERSONAL STATEMENT QUESTION #2

Please tell us about any financial hardships that you may be experiencing. Many of our scholarships are need-based, so please be somewhat specific in expressing the hardship. If selected as a recipient, how would you use the scholarship funds? (word count: 300)

Tips:

- Don't need to go into detail about you/your family's finances
- Explain HOW it impacts you. Do you have to work while going to school? Do you help with household expenses? Do you financially support others?
- Are you transferring? Costs will be higher. Does that impact your ability to transfer?

PERSONAL STATEMENT

QUESTION #3

Have you volunteered your time to serve and/or give back to your community?

- If yes, please list any volunteer activities you have participated in within the last few years. Please include names of organizations where you volunteer, dates of your involvement, leadership roles, or community service activities, etc. (250 word count)
- Please describe how your volunteer experiences have positively impacted your life. (200 word count)

Examples

- Food distributions? (on campus food drive)
- Beach clean-ups?
- On and off-campus clubs, organizations, religious institutions, etc.
- Does it pertain to your career goals? Volunteer hours for your career

PERSONAL STATEMENT TIPS

Your Story

- Past: How has it shaped you, your interests, and your journey?
- Present: Where are you now, what have you overcome, and what are you doing?
- Future: Where are your plans, and what is the road map ahead?

Include

- Educational and Career Goals
- Financial Hardship
- Work experience
- Household dynamics and living situation
- Supporting others

Review

- Professionalism
- Proofread and edit

ESSAY WRITING TIPS

“Showcase what excites you, what you love to learn about, your enthusiasm for a particular subject or an experience.”

“Successful essays focus on a specific **experience, hobby, or quirk** that reveals something personal, like how you think, what you value, or what your strengths are.”

“You can also write about something that illustrates an **aspect of your background or identity, or a time you demonstrated leadership.**”

“Pick an **experience that’s meaningful to you**, then share specific anecdotes to show that. For example, if you’re passionate about history, you might write about a formative experience volunteering at a local historical society or museum.”

ESSAY WRITING TIPS

“Experts say **essays should be concise, coherent, unique, honest and accurate**, with vivid details or anecdotes.”

“If you're struggling to get started, experts suggest **outlining the essay** first. Next, focus on the opening sentence – a hook that should grab the reader's attention and let them “dive into the action.”

“**Let your readers come to their own conclusions**. If your story is effective, they'll come to the conclusions you want them to.”

“**Too many perspectives can become counterproductive**. It's best to seek out individuals who are experts in the writing process.”

“Proofreaders should also not change the tone of the essay. **Applicants should read their essay out loud to make sure it's true to their voice.**”

PERSONAL STATEMENT EXAMPLES

- “I’m currently in my final semester of an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program. Becoming a nurse has been my goal for several years, and I’m excited to be so close to this first big milestone. After I pass the NCLEX and officially become an RN, I plan to move right into a BSN program and eventually pursue a Master of Science in Nursing to become a Nurse Practitioner. It’s a long road, but I’m committed and excited for what’s ahead.”
- “Now, I am looking ahead. I plan to double major once I transfer, focusing on IP and entertainment law. Why? Because I have seen how artists and journalists need people who understand both their creativity and their rights. I want to be that person, the one who helps protect their work and their voice.”
- “Even with these challenges, I held onto my passion for learning. In high school, I discovered my interest in engineering. I was fascinated by machines, design, and the way technology continues to improve our lives. In the summer, I was selected for an internship at Boeing, where I worked with 3D printing, aerodynamics, and flight simulations. That experience didn’t just confirm my decision to pursue mechanical engineering, it made me excited about the future. I realized that I could take part in innovations that push boundaries and make a real difference in the world. My long-term goal is to become both a mechanical engineer and a pilot, combining my love for problem-solving with my passion for aviation.”

PERSONAL STATEMENT EXAMPLES

- “Only recently have I discovered my interest in mechanical engineering for its balance of creativity and technical skills, which seemed to resonate closely with me as I am someone who has an artistic side yet more of a STEM mind.”
- “I believe I am a strong candidate for this scholarship because of my commitment to service, leadership, and lifelong learning. I’m not just working toward a degree. I’m preparing to be a nurse who leads, teaches, and serves. Thank you for considering my application and investing in my future.”
- “This scholarship would mean more than just financial support. It would mean someone believes in my journey as well. The late nights, the sacrifices, the hope I have for me and my son. I am not just trying to succeed for myself.”
- “As a first-generation college student, education represents more than a degree, it is my pathway to stability, growth, and the future I am determined to create for myself. I believe I should be selected as a scholarship recipient because I will not take this opportunity for granted. I will use it to keep moving forward with focus, determination, and gratitude.”

DOWNLOADING UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

1. Go to www.cerritos.edu, click “Quick Links”, then click “MyCerritos”
2. Sign in to your MyCerritos account
3. Click “View My Unofficial Transcript” under “My Information”
4. Click on the “Report Type” drop-down arrow and select “Unofficial Transcript”. Click “View Report” and your unofficial transcripts will appear in a new tab



GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (GEN AI)

The Foundation expects that your application responses are wholly your own. We require that the information you submit in this application (including essays, short answers, and personal statements) is truthful and written from your unique perspective. It will not help your application if you use generative artificial intelligence (Gen AI) tools such as ChatGPT to tell your story, as the **output tends to be generic and will not allow application reviewers to gain an understanding of who you are**. However, we recognize that **Gen AI is a tool**, and could be useful in preparing some aspects of your application.

OPTIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Who?

- Recent teacher/supervisor/community member who can speak about your academic performance, leadership skills, and/or community involvement
 - Give them a brag-sheet (GPA, AP, honors, awards, clubs, leadership roles, sports, work experience etc)
 - Share your personal statement with them
 - Share the scholarship application/information

When?

- THE EARLIER THE BETTER!
 - Allow at least 2 weeks, but more time is recommended

Always follow up with a THANK YOU to all recommenders!

HOW TO CONFIRM APPLICATION SUBMISSION

We've received your application

 Summarize

✓ [Hide message history](#)

From: Cerritos College Foundation <noreply@mail.awardspring.com>
Date: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 5:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: We've received your application



Hi [REDACTED]

You have submitted your general application on **AwardSpring** for Cerritos College Foundation.

Make sure you check your [dashboard](#) for any additional work you may need to complete.

<http://cerritoscollegefoundation.awardspring.com/>

Thanks,
Cerritos College Foundation

HOW TO CONFIRM APPLICATION SUBMISSION

AwardSpring will not allow you to submit an incomplete application.

AwardSpring will email you with confirmation that your application has been submitted. If you do not receive this email, you can log in to your application account and click the “Submit Application” tab. You should see “no more tasks” in the dashboard.

We've received your application [Summarize](#)

[Hide message history](#)

From: Cerritos College Foundation <noreply@mail.awardspring.com>

Date: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 5:05 PM

To: Jill Murphy <jmurphy@awardspring.com>

Subject: We've received your application



Hi Jill TEST

You have submitted your general application on [AwardSpring](#) for Cerritos College Foundation.

Make sure you check your [dashboard](#) for any additional work you may need to complete.

<http://cerritoscollegefoundation.awardspring.com/>

Thanks,
Cerritos College Foundation

This email was sent by [AwardSpring](#)

RESOURCES

Need 1-on-1 Assistance?

- Visit **Student Success Center & Career Services**
- **Email** scholarships@cerritos.edu or call 562-860-2451 ext. 2539



[Writing
Workshops](#)



[How to Email
Professors](#)



EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS

WHERE DO SCHOLARSHIPS COME FROM?

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

Your current or future school offer scholarships to their students



LOCAL & COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Soroptimist International, Bellflower Rotary Club, Norwalk Woman's Club

CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

Google, PepsiCo, Wells Fargo, Burger King, Amazon



PRIVATE DONORS & INDIVIDUALS

Alumni, Staff, Leaders, Partners, and Community

HOW TO FIND SCHOLARSHIPS



FOUNDATION

Cerritos College Foundation offers over 50 scholarships for active Falcon students ONLY. Use AwardSpring to log in and see what is available

Cerritos College Foundation
[cerritoscf.org/get-scholarships/apply-now/](https://www.cerritoscf.org/get-scholarships/apply-now/)



FINANCIAL AID

Cerritos College Financial Aid office offers great resources and links to additional scholarships that are not associated with the college.

Visit Financial Aid Office:
<https://www.cerritos.edu/financial-aid/programs/scholarship.htm>



ORGS. & BUSINESSES

Various clubs, societies, nonprofits, businesses, and many local/state/national organizations offer scholarships.

Examples: American Legion, American Red Cross, Boys & Girls Club, Rotary Foundation, Society of Women Engineers



SEARCH TOOLS

Use Google to help with searching for scholarships and other opportunities! Social media platforms like Instagram and LinkedIn are also valuable tools

Examples: Scholarships, College Board, Fastweb, ScholarshipOwl, Scholarship America, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Bold.com

TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS
- PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS
- RENEWABLE SCHOLARSHIPS
- ONE-TIME GRANTS

AWARDED BY:

- UNIVERSITIES
- GOVERNMENT
- OTHER INSTITUTIONS

MERIT BASED

EXCELLENT
ACADEMIC RESULTS

RESEARCH
ACHIEVEMENTS

ARTISTIC
ACHIEVEMENTS

ATHLETIC
ACHIEVEMENTS

NEEDS BASED

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS

UNDERREPRESENTED
GROUPS

WITH A SPECIAL
FOCUS

PROGRAMME
SPECIFIC

LOCATION
SPECIFIC

SUBJECT
SPECIFIC

HOW TO FIND LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Community Foundations:

- Search your city/county community foundation for local scholarships and centralized application portals. ([Community Foundation Databse](#))

High School / School District:

- Check your school's scholarship page, connect with a staff member or search other nearby high schools' sites for local lists

Local City/County

- Your local city or County might offer scholarships or promote scholarships from their partners, nonprofits, businesses

College / University Portals:

- Use your college's scholarship portal ([AwardSpring for Cerritos College](#))

Local Civic Clubs:

- Rotary, Elks, Lions, Kiwanis and similar clubs regularly award scholarships

Local Businesses & Employers:

- Check banks, law firms, grocery chains, hospitals, utilities, and companies that hire locally (and parents' employers).

Credit Unions & Local Foundations:

- Local credit unions and community foundations frequently offer annual scholarships. (Downey Federal Credit Union, California Community Foundation Annenberg Foundation)

Religious & Community Organizations:

- Places of worship, community centers, 4H, and local disability organizations may have awards.

Professional & Major-Specific Orgs:

- National societies with local chapters (IEEE, ASME, music/education groups) often have member-only scholarships and lower competition. (Southeast District Bar Association, Society of Women Engineers, [see more](#))

SCHOLARSHIPS DATABASES



Careeronestop

- <https://www.careeronestop.org/>

fastweb

Fastweb

- <https://www.fastweb.com/>



Scholarships.com

- <https://www.scholarships.com/>



Scholarship360

- <https://scholarships360.org/>



Peterson's

- <https://www.petersons.com/>



Appily/Cappex

- <https://www.appily.com/colleges>



Sallie Mae Scholarship Search

- <https://www.sallie.com/scholarships>



Niche

- <https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>



Scholarship America

- <https://www.careeronestop.org/>



Kaleidoscope

- <https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/>



RedKite

- <https://myredkite.com/>



The University Network (TUN)

- <https://www.tun.com/scholarships/>



JLV College Counseling

- <https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/scholarships/>



Big Future/College Board

- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>



Bold

- <https://www.bold.com/>

Sources (2024): <https://scholarshipinstitute.org/blog/>
<https://scholarshipinstitute.org/blog/best-scholarship-websites/>

JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION

Eligibility

- Be a current student at an accredited 2-year institution or a recent graduate (within 5 years)
- Intend to enroll full-time in an accredited 4-year institution by Fall 2026
- Cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.5 or above
- Demonstrate financial need. They will consider family income up to \$95,000

Program Experience

- Receive up to \$55,000 per year to use towards tuition, books and other fees and expenses
- Pursue any area of study
- Access to personal advising about college, navigating financial aid, and maximizing your experience at your new institution
- Be eligible to apply for the Cooke Graduate Scholarship
- Access to fellow scholars

Application Components

- JKCF is a CommonApp
- Finances (self-reported initially)
- 2 Letters of Recommendation
- Activities and honors
- Family/household info
- Writing
- Plans for area of study

Important Dates:

August 19, 2026 – Application Opened
December 9, 2026 – Application Closes
March 2027 – Semifinalists announced
May 2027 – Recipients announced

Link: <https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/undergraduate-transfer-scholarship/>

JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION



2 Recipients this past Spring! (\$55K award)
Benjamin Lee and Sharlize Lemus

Cerritos College has had students receive this prestigious scholarship, so they're paying attention to our students!

TACO BELL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP TO ADVANCE ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Anahi Mireles, May 2025

Cerritos College student Anahi Mireles was awarded a **\$10,000 Live Más Scholarship** from the Taco Bell Foundation, recognizing her passion for engineering and advocacy for individuals with disabilities. She is one of only 453 recipients selected from over 15,000 applicants nationwide. Intend to enroll full-time in an accredited 4-year institution by Fall 2024

The Live Más Scholarship, founded by the Taco Bell Foundation in 2015, supports students using their passion to ignite change. The award is renewable for up to four years and is designed to support students on their educational journeys, whether in college, workforce training, or community impact.



KEY DETAILS & DOCUMENTS



APPLICATION AND ONLINE PORTAL

Complete all required fields such as your personal and academic details



ESSAY/PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Essays and personal statements are your chance to share your unique story & how it aligns with the scholarship's mission



UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts share your GPA, total units, class load, and other key details that help with scholarship selection



PROOF OF FINANCIAL NEED

Some needs-based scholarships require you to submit a FAFSA application & share your financial need calculation



RECOMMENDATIONS & PORTFOLIO

Recommendations are often provided by professors, mentors, professionals and others who will endorse you

FEDERAL STUDENT AID



Benefits

Determine federal aid eligibility, also used for other state and school aid



Gather Information

SSN or AIN, Tax documents, Financial Information



Dependency

24+, married, a veteran, have kids, are a grad student, or have special circumstances like homelessness or foster care after age 13



Apply Online

FAFSA application for the following academic year opens October 1

Learn more at StudentAid.gov/types
Apply at www.fafsa.gov

FEDERAL STUDENT AID



Free Money

Grants are usually based on financial need and don't have to be repaid



Borrowed Money

Loans are borrowed money that must be repaid with interest

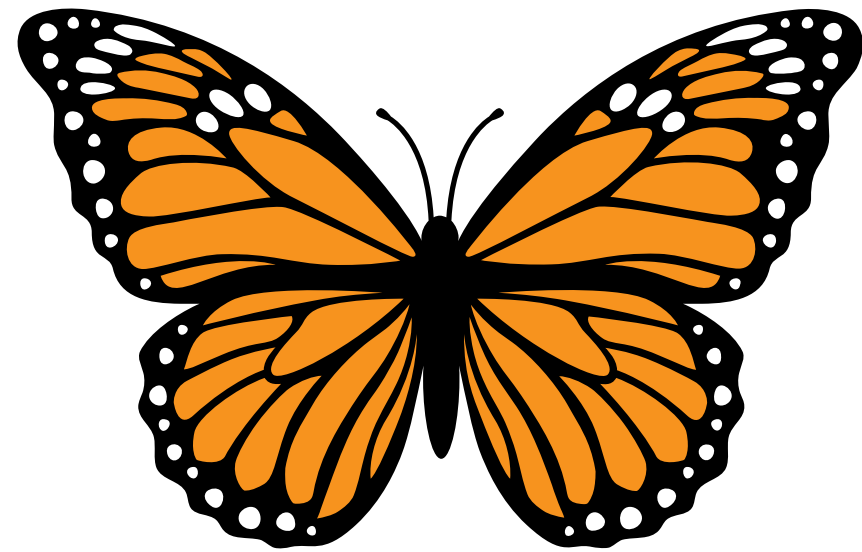


Earned Money

A **work-study** job lets you earn money while you're in school

Learn more at [StudentAid.gov/types](https://studentaid.gov/types)
Apply at www.fafsa.gov

AID FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS



Dreamers/Undocu/ AB-540

CA Dream Act Application



Military Veteran

GI Bill, Yellow Ribbon
Program, Survivors' and
Dependents



International Student

International Student
Financial Aid Application

Learn more at [StudentAid.gov/types](https://studentaid.gov/types)

Apply at www.fafsa.gov OR www.csac.ca.gov/undocumented

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE PROMISE GRANT (CCPG)



California
Community
Colleges

California College Promise Grant (CCPG) – Fee Waiver

- Formerly known as the Board of Governors Fee Waiver
- Provides assistance to cover community college enrollment fees
- Must be a CA resident or AB 540 eligible and qualify under one of the following conditions:
 - Grant A: You or your parents must currently be receiving AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children, SSI/SSP (Supplemental Social Security Income/State Supplementary Program), or General Assistance/General Relief, or you are a disabled veteran or a dependent of a deceased or disabled veteran, as certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
 - Grant B: Meet income standards based on family size and basic year income
 - Grant C: Completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Dream Act Application and has "financial need."
- **It covers all enrollment fees.** It does not cover the health fee, student activity fee, lab/materials fee, and/or parking.

CERRITOS COMPLETE



- **Mission:** Student success initiative that focuses on our students' pledge to earn and complete their degrees or certificates on time.
- **Promise:** Two years of free tuition, one-on-one counseling & advisement, access to support services, and guidance from application to program completion.
- **Who can participate?**
 - High school seniors in their graduating year from one of our partner districts
 - Adult students completing high school equivalency through one of our partner districts
 - Students must be:
 - First-time college students
 - CA resident or AB 540 eligible
 - FAFSA/CADAA eligible
 - The Cerritos Complete Promise Program admits students who have completed the steps below in the Fall semester only
- **What You Get**
 - Two years free in-state tuition, health fee, and student activities fee
 - Personalized onboarding
 - Academic & personal support
- **Partner Unified School Districts**
 - ABC Unified School District, Bellflower Unified School District, Compton Unified School District, Downey Unified School District, Lynwood Unified School District, Norwalk–La Mirada Unified School District, Paramount Unified School District

TYPES OF STUDENT AID

Grants

- Funds that don't have to be repaid (Exceptions: Withdrawing and owing a refund, or not completing the service obligation)
- Federal Pell Grants, State (BOG) Grants, FSEOG, TEACH Grant

Loans

- Money you borrow and must pay back with interest
- May be offered loans as part of your school's financial aid offer (6.53% Interest)
 - Subsidized: pay interest 6 months after attending school
 - Unsubsidized: begin paying interest immediately

Work-Study Jobs

- Earn money to pay for school by working part-time
- Must have financial need
- Emphasizes employment in civic education and work related to your course of study whenever possible
- On and off-campus jobs, visit Career Center & FA Office

Aid for Specific Groups

- Military Families (GI Bill, Yellow Ribbon Program, Survivors' and Dependents)
- Undocumented/AB 540/Dreamers (CA Dream Act, Non-Federal Financial Aid)
- International Study (International Student Financial Aid Application)

Scholarships...



A stylized background graphic featuring a light gray hand holding a flower, with a dark blue diagonal stripe and a yellow triangle in the bottom right corner.

CAREER CENTER

CAREER CENTER & RE-ENTRY

The Re-Entry Resource Program is here to assist and support adult learners, 23 years or older, who are new to college or returning after a break of three or more years. Our goal is to provide you with tailored services to address those concerns and help make your transition back into school as smooth and easy as possible.

SERVICES

- Provide **personalized assistance** to guide you through the application process
- Assist you with making **counseling appointments**
- Offer specialized **referrals** to both on and off campus resources
- Inform you of Re-Entry **Scholarships** and how and when to apply
- Provide you with **Free Success Workshops**



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Community Resource Fair

Child care, health care, legal aid, emergency shelters, social services, treatment programs, credit counseling, volunteer opportunities, and many more.

Job Fair

Explore current job opportunities, apply for positions on-site, and network with employers from various industries, including healthcare, sales, retail, and government/public sectors.



FALCONS NEST

FALCON'S NEST



The Falcon's Nest provides centralized support services for students facing basic need insecurities. This is accomplished through access to on and off campus resources, community collaboration, and advocacy that ensures a student's educational success.

SERVICES

- Food Support and CalFresh
- Financial Support and Wellness
- Housing Resources
- Clothing and Hygiene Products
- Employment Support
- On and off campus referrals





NONPROFITS & FOUNDATIONS

WHAT IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION (NPO)?

“A legal entity organized and **operated for a collective, public or social benefit**, as opposed to an entity that operates as a business aiming to generate a profit for its owners” ([Wikipedia](#))

OVERVIEW

- 501 (c) tax status
- Not driven by profit
- Dedicated to and invests in a specific cause
- Religious, charitable, scientific, literary, educational, social, or recreational purposes
- 9.8% of Total US Employment, 1.2M in California



TYPES OF 501(C) ORGANIZATIONS

501 (c)(3):

Charitable organizations, churches and religious organizations, private foundations



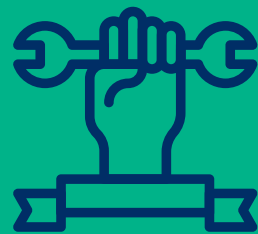
501 (c)(4):

Social advocacy/lobbying organizations



501 (c)(5):

Labor, agriculture, and horticulture organizations



501 (c)(7):

Social and recreational clubs



WHAT IS A FOUNDATION?

“A type of nonprofit organization or charitable trust that usually **provides funding and support to other charitable organizations** through grants, while also potentially participating directly in charitable activities.” (*Wikipedia*)

OVERVIEW

- 501 (c)(3) tax status
- Monetarily support other organizations or individuals
- Raise and disburse funds
- Public charity, private foundation, community foundation, corporate foundation, independent foundation, grant-making foundation



DONATION CYCLE



Donor

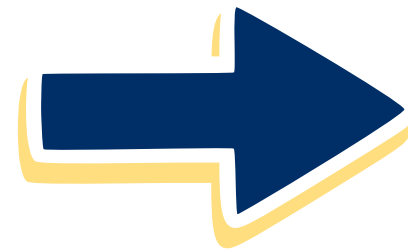
Gives money to a nonprofit or Foundation



Tax Credit

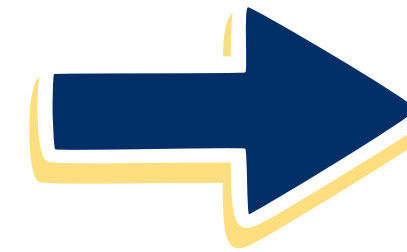


Social Impact



Nonprofit or Foundation

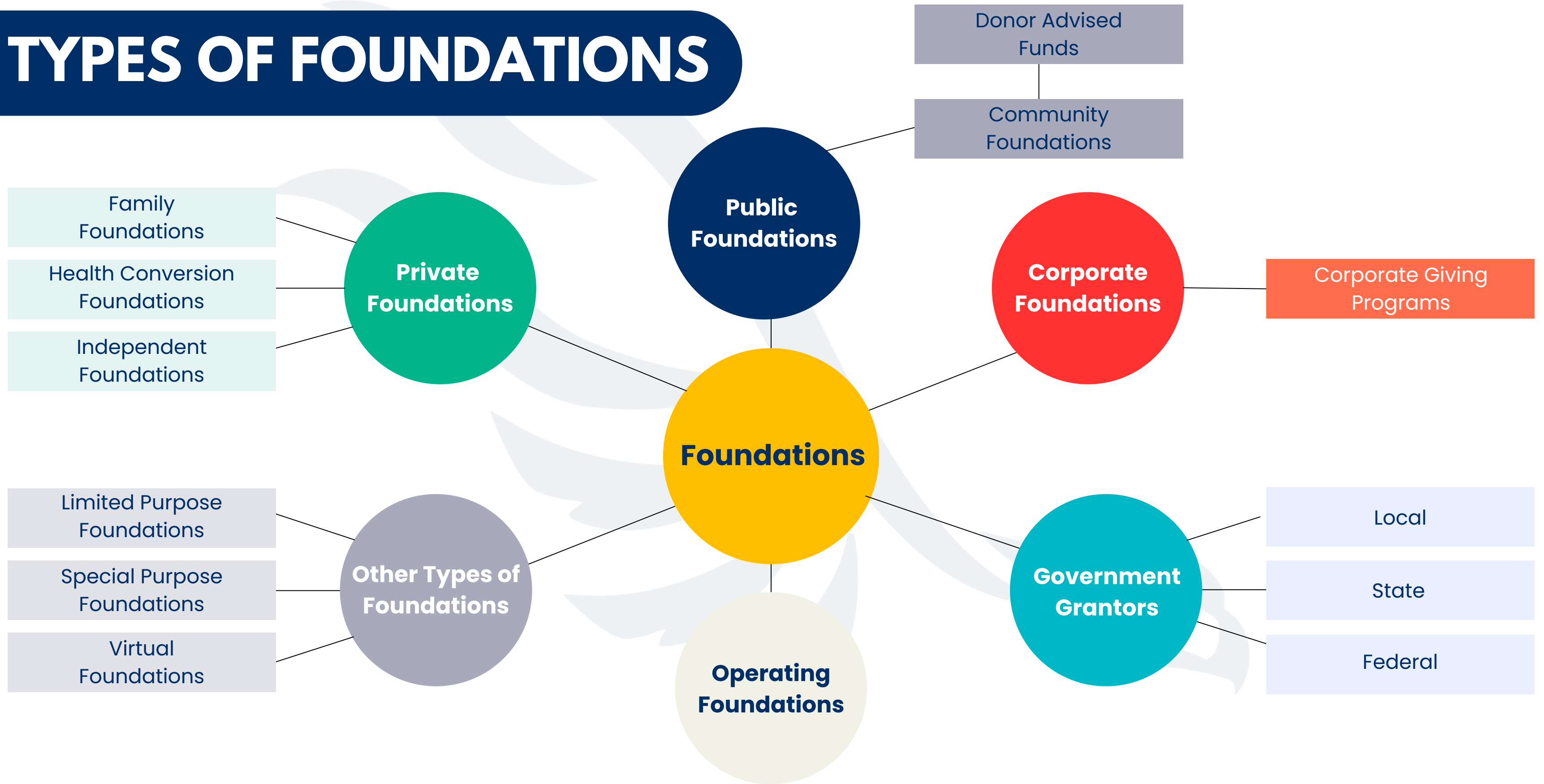
Receives donations, sends tax documents, and offers aid



Receive Aid

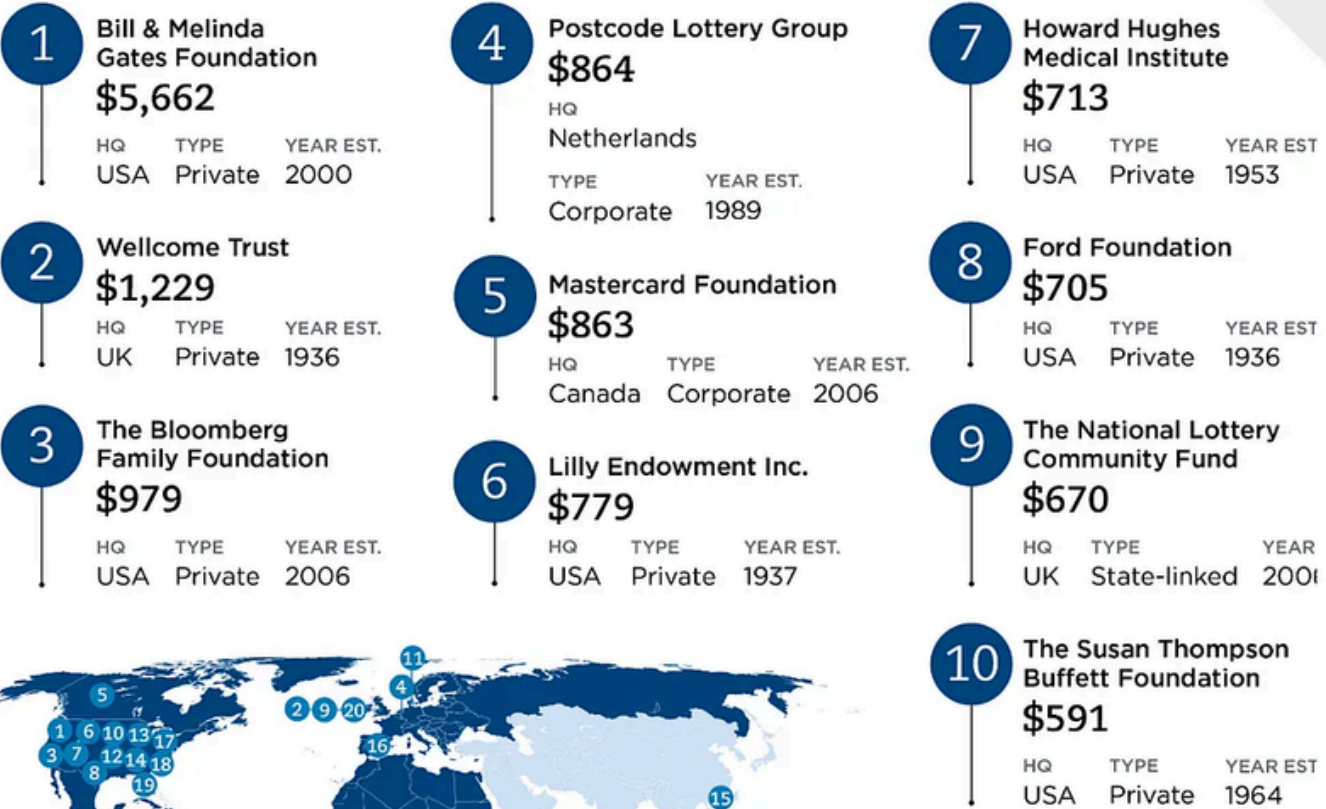
Scholarships are awarded and funds are allocated to programs

TYPES OF FOUNDATIONS



Largest global funders.

Top 20 annual giving in millions of US dollars



11	Novo Nordisk Foundation	Denmark	Corporate	1989	\$578
12	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	USA	Private	1936	\$558
13	Foundation to Promote Open Society	USA	Private	2008	\$535
14	Walton Family Foundation	USA	Private	1987	\$510
15	The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust	Hong Kong SAR, China	Corporate	1993	\$507
16	Ia Caixa Foundation	Spain	Corporate	1990	\$483
17	The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation	USA	Private	1966	\$482
18	The David and Lucile Packard Foundation	USA	Private	1964	\$399
19	The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	USA	Private	1969	\$397
20	Children's Investment Fund Foundation	UK	Private	2002	\$371

Largest California funders.

TITLE	TOTAL ANNUAL GIVING
Silicon Valley Community Foundation	\$1,894,973,634
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	\$431,219,377
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation	\$325,249,144
Tides Foundation	\$222,278,451
California Community Foundation	\$170,444,478
The California Endowment	\$155,964,525
Lucille Packard Foundation for Children's Health	\$150,331,099
The San Francisco Foundation	\$149,649,862
The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation	\$141,325,999
The Asia Foundation	\$112,922,291
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation	\$111,767,014
The James Irvine Foundation	\$87,377,604
The Annenberg Foundation	\$85,610,590
The Energy Foundation	\$79,304,017
Orange County Community Foundation	\$79,236,154
Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles	\$78,459,655
William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation	\$70,446,615
The Trust for Public Land	\$63,758,148
The Sierra Club Foundation	\$63,236,588
W. M. Keck Foundation	\$55,332,420
Entertainment Industry Foundation	\$50,245,085
Marin Community Foundation	\$49,175,108
The Ahmanson Foundation	\$49,059,341
Jim Joseph Foundation	\$46,921,141
The Safeway Foundation	\$44,618,115
The San Diego Foundation	\$44,614,658
The Marisla Foundation	\$41,941,775
The Roberts Foundation	\$36,994,560
The David Geffen Foundation	\$35,950,810
The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences	\$35,082,867

SPI
SCHOL
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MAY
THURSDAY 01
2025
CERRITOS COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (PAC)

THANK YOU!

Eric E. Calderon

Scholarship Relations Specialist

Cerritos College Foundation

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