



Sisters Helping Sisters: Need-Based Scholarship Application Guide

Due to a matching grant challenge from **Carlene Moore Ellis, Delta Iota-Georgia**, many Delta Gamma members, collegiate chapters, alumnae groups and house corporations responded to the Sisters Helping Sisters: A Need-Based Scholarship Program. Because of their generosity, the Delta Gamma Foundation is pleased to offer need-based awards to collegiate members who have proven financial need. We also thank the College Access Foundation of California for their generous contribution to this program.

Scholarship applications may be submitted using SmarterSelect and need-based scholarships are available from August 1, and will remain open as funds allow for eligible candidates.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be current, initiated undergraduate members of Delta Gamma Fraternity who are in good standing.
- Applicants must have completed their first year of coursework to apply (sophomore, junior or senior status).
- Applicants must have proven financial need and/or student loan debt.
- Applicants must include an unofficial transcript showing they have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher.
- Applicants must have accepted need-based financial aid from their college or university.

Tips for Submitting Your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Submit Your FAFSA as soon as possible: You can submit a FAFSA beginning January 1. Submitting this document as early as possible will ensure you have ample time to obtain your Student Aid Report (SAR) and upload it to your application prior to the deadline. Working together with your parents, guardians or support systems, you should file your federal income taxes as soon as possible to aid you in completing an accurate FAFSA.

Submit Your FAFSA online: Delta Gamma Foundation encourages you to file your FAFSA electronically at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Submitting your FAFSA online and providing your valid email address will ensure your FAFSA is processed quickly and your SAR is generated in a timely manner.



If you submit your FAFSA online, the U.S. Department of Education will email you a link to your SAR within 7-10 days after your FAFSA has been processed; follow the directions in the email to obtain your SAR. Otherwise, you will receive your SAR in the mail.

Canadian collegians: Please upload you most recent Notification/Letter of Assessment from your provincial government outlining your qualification for need-based grants and loans.

Submitting Your Application

To complete your application, you must submit the following items in SmarterSelect.

Please ensure these documents include your name and academic year, as this is the most common reason for applications being denied:

- An essay explaining your financial need.
- A copy of your official or unofficial transcript
- A recommendation from your Advisory Team Chairman (ATC) signifying that you are in both academic and financial good standing with your chapter.
- A copy of any financial aid documents for the current academic year including:
 - Proof of your ACCEPTED university/college financial aid
 - Your cost of attendance
 - Your expected family contribution

Each recipient will be granted \$2,500, which will be paid directly to the college or university for credit to her account for educational purposes only. **Funds may not be used for Delta Gamma dues or expenses.**

Awards will be granted as funds are available. Applications will open August 1 and will close once all funds have been awarded.

To submit your application:

1. Ensure you have entered all required information (*including the “Need-Based Scholarship Information” section for need-based applicants*). Then select the green “Submit Application” button.
2. If submission is successful, you will receive:
 - An on-screen confirmation message. Select the green “Print Application” button and save the printed copy for your records.
 - An email with a confirmation code. Please save this message for your records.
3. If submission is not successful, the page will refresh, and you will see an error message.
 - Select the page(s) highlighted in the navigation pane to identify items with errors.
 - After you have corrected any errors, navigate to the “Submission Information” page and follow steps #2-3 above.

To update your application after submission: Log in to your application, complete changes and re-submit. If your update is successful, you will see an on-screen confirmation message and will receive a confirmation email.



Applicant/Recipient Notifications

Delta Gamma Foundation will notify all applicants if they are recipients of a need-based scholarship. Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Historically, need-based scholarships take less than a month to be reviewed; however, if applicants have issues with or incorrect information on their application, the process may take longer than a month.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the deadline for submission?

Applications are accepted, reviewed, and awarded on a rolling basis. You may apply anytime beginning August 1, and applications will remain open as funds allow.

Who is eligible to apply to for a need-based scholarship?

- Applicants must be current, initiated undergraduate members of Delta Gamma Fraternity who are in good standing.
- Applicants must have completed their first year of coursework to apply (sophomore, junior, or senior status).
- Applicants must have proven financial need and student loan debt.
- Applicants must include an unofficial transcript showing they have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher.
- Applicants must have accepted need-based financial aid from their college or university.

If I have received a Sisters Helping Sister scholarship in the past can I apply again?

Yes. However, you must reapply every year and continue to meet the eligibility criteria. Please ensure you are uploading your financial and academic information for the correct year.

How do I complete the application form?

Visit www.deltagamma.org/foundation/applications to access the online application.

How will I know if you received my application?

You will receive a confirmation e-mail (or text message to your cell phone if you opt-in) once your application has been submitted successfully.

What is FAFSA?

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It is required for you to apply for any type of federal financial assistance. Application forms can be obtained from the guidance or financial aid office at your school. You may also call 1-800-433-3243 or complete the application online by going to fafsa.ed.gov. Information generated by completion of the FAFSA is required for most scholarship applications.

What is an EFC?



EFC stands for Estimated Family Contribution. Based on a government-calculated formula using the information you submit on your FAFSA, the EFC is the amount of money the government believes your family should be able to contribute to your college funding. The EFC number usually appears in the upper right-hand corner of the Student Aid Report (SAR), but it may appear elsewhere on the report.

When will I be notified whether I've received an award or not?

All applicants will be notified by e-mail within a month of submitting their completed application and ATC recommendation. Please be sure that the e-mail address you provide in the application is valid, as it will be used for all communication.

Does the Delta Gamma Foundation offer other scholarships?

Yes. The Delta Gamma Foundation offers merit-based scholarships and other fellowship and grant opportunities. For more information, visit www.deltagamma.org/foundation/applications

Are recommendations required?

Yes. Your Advisory Team Chairman will fill out an Adviser Recommendation on SmarterSelect. At the end of your application, you will input your ATC's contact information, and they will receive a link to the online recommendation form.

