



Sam Houston State University

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS OFFICE

Scholarship FAQ

1. I cannot login to Scholarships4Kats, please help?
 - a. Are you a current student? – Only SHSU students can access Scholarships4Kats
 - b. Be sure that you are accessing Scholarships4Kats through the SHSU portal, not through Google or any other search engine. Go to your MySam account, select the Student tab, then click on the Scholarships4Kats link.
 - c. Students should never have to “login” thanks to the single sign on feature (SSO).
2. I am an incoming freshman and have heard about the Terry Foundation Scholarship. Where can I apply?
 - a. The Terry Foundation application is available to incoming freshmen who will graduate in the top 25% of their class from a Texas High School, have a minimum SAT score of 1090 and/or minimum ACT of 24.
 - b. Information on the application can be found at www.shsu.edu/~fao www/scholarships.
3. The person that I put for a reference has not received the email asking them to upload a letter on my behalf?
 - a. This could possibly be a firewall issue with the school (_____ ISD). Please have the district’s IT person contact our office so that we can resolve this issue.
 - i. If the reference has an alternate email account (@yahoo, gmail etc.) edit the email by removing the entry and adding a new one with the new email.
 - b. Be sure that you have the correct email address, i.e. spelling of their name.
4. I have already submitted my application, but I need to make some changes.
 - a. The Letters of Recommendation are the only documents/entries that can be edited in regards to the Scholarships4Kats Application.
 - b. No other changes can be made to your application after submitting.
5. How do I know what scholarships I qualify for?
 - a. Look on the SHSU/Financial Aid/Scholarships page under Scholarship search by Department. All of the requirements are listed here.
6. I completed my application by the priority deadline, but I have not been told what scholarships I am receiving?
 - a. You have excelled at meeting the priority deadline, however, many departments award at later dates. At this time, we cannot provide a definite date of notification. If you are selected as a recipient, you will be notified through your SHSU email account.
 - i. Scholarship committees are urged to notify recipients by May 1st.
 - b. Keep in mind that just because you qualify for a scholarship does not guarantee that you will be selected. Our scholarship process is very competitive.
7. I noticed that the priority deadline on the Scholarships4Kats application has passed. Have I missed my chance?
 - a. No. Preference is given to students who meet the priority deadline. We have established this deadline to allow students the best opportunity for awards by meeting the deadline closest to the majority of the scholarships offered at SHSU.
8. Do you offer summer scholarships?
 - a. Summer awards depend on the funds available.
 - b. Scholarship applications will be posted on the Financial Aid and Scholarships website.

Sam Houston State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

Financial Aid and Scholarships Office • Box 2328, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2328 • 936.294.1774 • Fax 936.294.3668

9. I have switched my major and my application is no longer accurate, can you re-open it so that I can change my answers?
 - a. In regards to majors, we pull student's majors through Banner. Be sure that when you "changed you major" that you did so with an advisor so that it was changed in the system.
10. When will the application open for the following year?
 - a. The application for the next academic year opens the September prior to the priority deadline for that year.
11. I have scholarships from my church and various organizations. Where do I send the check?
 - a. Bursar's Office: ATTENTION: Scholarships
Sam Houston State University
Box 2273
Huntsville, Texas 77341-2273
 - b. Be sure that the organization knows to include your name and SAM ID on the check as well as indicate how the funds are to be disbursed (½ in fall and ½ in spring or all in one term).
12. Where will my scholarship award be sent?
 - a. Scholarships awarded to students at Sam Houston State University are applied to the student's account through their Banner Self Service. The scholarship funds will apply to the student's balance due. Any residual funds will then be issued to the student as a refund.
 - b. Refund preferences can be setup through the student's Bearkat One account. The contact information is listed on the back of the Bearkat One Card.
13. I am an entering freshman, what information should I know regarding scholarship opportunities?
 - a. You will need to complete your Scholarships4Kats Application by the November 1st priority deadline in order to qualify for scholarships offered at Sam Houston State University.
 - b. Meeting the November 1st priority deadline for Early Freshmen Awards will include you in early awards such as Annual Fund and University Scholars.
 - i. The criteria for University Scholars are:
 1. Be in the upper 20% of class
 2. Minimum SAT score of 1200 (reading and math) or minimum of 27 on the ACT
 - ii. The criteria for Annual Fund are:
 1. Be in the top 10% of class
 2. Minimum SAT score of 1300 (reading and math) or minimum 30 on the ACT
 - c. Also, remember to check with your high school counselor on additional scholarship opportunities.
14. Do you have any hints to help me be successful in completing Scholarships4Kats?
 - a. There are essays within the application. Use a program like Microsoft Word to spell check your essays.
 - b. Submit your application well in advance of the deadline to avoid any technical errors.