



2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The **American Experience Foundation (AEF)** enriches the lives of students and young people through inspirational travel experiences and educational opportunities to cultivate the next generation of hospitality industry professionals. AEF is the 501(c)(3) non-profit affiliated with Destination DC, Washington DC's official destination marketing organization.

AEF invests in young people through:

- ★ Free field trips to the nation's capital for students from DC and across the country
- ★ Internships and educational opportunities to connect students with industry professionals
- ★ Scholarships to qualified students and alumni

Only students enrolled in or have graduated from one of the Academies of Hospitality & Tourism, Culinary Arts, & Mass Media at the following schools in Washington, DC are eligible to apply. Alumni of the now closed Hospitality High School are also eligible to apply.

1. Ballou High School
2. Columbia Heights Educational Campus
3. Coolidge High School
4. IDEA Public Charter School
5. Jackson-Reed High School
6. Maya Angelou Public Charter High School
7. River Terrace Education Campus
8. Roosevelt High School

Each scholarship is \$2,500. Awards are based upon a solid academic background, work and/or internship experience, and interest in a career in hospitality, culinary arts, or media. Additional scholarships or honorariums of various amounts may also be awarded.

If awarded to an underclass student, funds will be held by AEF and then transferred to the student or to their higher education institution upon graduation from high school. Students are responsible for contacting AEF with this information.

The scholarships are intended to cover such items as tuition, education materials, and fees. Higher education institution can be any post-secondary educational experience, such as a professional certificate or training program, two- or four-year degree program, or graduate program.

Students are encouraged to reapply annually. Scholarships are not automatically renewed.

There are 3 types of scholarships available.

Each scholarship uses the same application. There is no need to submit more than one application. All applicants will be automatically considered for Distinguished Scholarships if they are qualified.

1. Academy Scholarships

AEF offers scholarships to Academy of Hospitality & Tourism, Culinary Arts, & Mass Media students at the above eight high schools in Washington, DC. Typically, one scholarship is awarded per school; additional scholarships may be awarded to qualified applicants.

2. Alumni Scholarship

Available to qualified alumna or alumnus of the above Academies currently enrolled or looking to enroll in an institution of higher education or training program. Awards are based upon a solid academic or work background and interest in a career in hospitality. At least one Alumni scholarship will be awarded annually; additional scholarships may be awarded.

3. Distinguished Scholarships

These qualities should be documented in the applicant's resume, essay and/or letters of recommendation. Community should be defined by the applicant in their application and may include the student's school, work, neighborhood, place of worship, or other community or group.

- ★ **The David Iselin Memorial Scholarship** recognizes a student from any of the eligible Academies who has an exemplary dedication to community service.
- ★ **The Ray Bennett Memorial Scholarship** recognizes a student from any of the eligible Academies who has demonstrated exemplary leadership qualities in their community.
- ★ **The Akira Wilson Memorial Scholarship** recognizes a student at **Jackson-Reed High School** who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and entrepreneurship.
- ★ **The Joe Shymanski Memorial Scholarship** recognizes a student in the **Mass Media Academies** with a demonstrated interest in commercial media, photography, videography or graphic design.

Please, learn more about the legacies of David, Ray, Akira and Joe at americanexperiencefoundation.org.

All AEF Scholarships Include

Scholarship

\$2,500 payable to either the student or the student's higher education institution. The student may decide how they would like to receive the funds. If money is given directly to the student, it will be disbursed in two installments of \$1,250 each, one per semester.

Events

Scholarship winners will be invited to American Experience Foundation and Destination DC events, including the Awards Ceremony & July 4th VIP Celebration. These events offer excellent opportunities for winners to connect with Washington DC's hospitality industry professionals and each other. Winners are encouraged, but not required to attend.

Timeline

May 10, 2024 **Deadline for application and all supporting materials**

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

You can return your application to your Academy leader to submit for you.

Email scanned, completed applications to:

Lisa Waldschmitt at lisa@americanexperiencefoundation.org

Subject line: "AEF Scholarship".

A confirmation message will be sent.

OR mail completed application to:

American Experience Foundation
Attention: Scholarship Committee
901 7th Street NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20001

May 20, 2024 **Selection & Notification**

- ★ Recipients will be selected by AEF Board of Directors.
- ★ Schools and winners notified via email and award letters mailed to address listed on application.

May 29, 2024 **Awards Ceremony & Reception, 5-7 p.m.**

- ★ Winners will be announced via AEF website, social media, and email.
- ★ Winners will be invited and recognized at the DC Hospitality Scholarship Awards. Scholarships from the Washington, DC Restaurant, Hotel and Concierge Associations will also be presented at this festive event.

American Experience Foundation
www.americanexperiencefoundation.org
901 7th ST NW, 4th Floor | Washington, DC 20001
Lisa Waldschmitt, 202-789-7065, lisa@americanexperiencefoundation.org

2024 AMERICAN EXPERIENCE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please type or write clearly in ink.

1. Student contact information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____

2. Parent or Guardian Contact Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____

3. Academy Information

High School

- Bell High School at CHEC
- Ballou High School
- Coolidge High School
- Jackson Reed High School
- Maya Angelou Public Charter High School
- Theodore Roosevelt High School
- River Terrace Educational Campus

CTE Pathway

- Culinary Arts
- Mass Media
- Hospitality
- Other:

NAF Academy Levels successfully completed (check all that apply)

- Level I
- Level II
- Level III
- Level IV - Advanced Internship Program or Senior Thesis Project
- Other Classes:
- Other Classes:
- Other Classes:

Year of Graduation: _____

GPA: _____

4. Higher Education Enrollment Information

College, university, technical training or certificate program (if not yet enrolled, where you plan to attend if you know)

School Name: _____

City, State: _____

Are you currently enrolled in a higher education or training program? If not, a copy of your admittance letter is required before any funds are remitted.

Yes

No

What is your major or anticipated major? _____

Complete the information below only if you are *already* enrolled and have taken courses toward a post-secondary degree.

Major: _____

Concentration/Minor: _____

GPA in your major: _____

Overall GPA: _____

How is your school year divided? (check one)

Semester

Quarter

Trimester

Number of credit hours completed:

Number of hours registered for current term: _____

Number of hours you intend to register for next term: _____

Expected date of graduation: _____

5. Are you or will you be the first person from your family to attend college?

Yes

No

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Lisa Waldschmitt, 202-789-7065, lisa@americanexperiencefoundation.org

Certification

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to provide proof of the information I have given on this form. I authorize any high school or college in which I am or have been enrolled to release my most recent transcript when requested. If I am awarded a scholarship,

Applicant's signature: _____

Date: _____

If the applicant is under 18 years of age, the parent/guardian must also comply with this certification.

Parent/Guardian's signature: _____

Date: _____

American Experience Foundation Scholarship Supporting Materials

1. Resume

All applicants must attach a **one-page resume** that includes:

- ★ Contact Information
- ★ Employment history including internships (paid or unpaid)
- ★ Extra-curricular, volunteer, and community service activities
- ★ Special coursework (including job shadowing opportunities)
- ★ Other activities and awards you would like the committee to consider with your application

2. Essay questions

All applicants must submit a **one-page essay**, answering the follow questions:

- ★ Tell us about yourself and your educational journey. What major are you pursuing and why? What have you learned in your Academy and how will you apply it to your career? How will post-secondary education help you achieve your career objectives and goals?

3. Work Portfolio - Joe Shymanski Memorial Scholarship Applicants ONLY

- ★ Submit a photo, video or graphic design portfolio submission including **at least 3 and no more than 10 work samples**.

4. Other Attachments (Transcripts, Letters of Recommendation)

A. If you are in high school:

- ★ Copy of an official high school transcript. Must include Grade Point Average (GPA).
- ★ Copy of an acceptance letter or statement from your intended post-secondary educational institution (if already accepted)
- ★ Two (2) letters of recommendation
 - One (1) from a teacher, guidance counselor, or other school official
 - One (1) from an employer, volunteer supervisor or other adult supervisor

B. If you are a high school graduate already enrolled in a college/university or certificate program:

- ★ Copy of an official college/university transcript, including GPA.
- ★ Two (2) letters of recommendation
 - One (1) from a professor or academic advisor
 - One (1) from an employer or supervisor (paid, unpaid, or volunteer work)

5. Publicity and Communication

If awarded, I agree to:

- ★ Send AEF a photo of myself
- ★ Attend scholarship awards acceptance ceremony on May 29, 2024 from 5-7 pm.
- ★ Give AEF permission to contact me in the future, and use information provided in this application, my photo and any testimonial statements I provide in AEF promotional print or digital copy.
- ★ Send AEF an update at the end of the academic year about my studies and plans.

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American Experience Foundation Scholarship Application Checklist

Incomplete applications will not be processed.

All applications must include:

- Signed application (pages 4-6)
- Resume
- Essay
- Two recommendation letters
- Optional: Work portfolio if applying to the Joe Shymanski Memorial Scholarship

If you are a high school student or not enrolled in a high education program yet, also include:

- Official high school transcript
- Copy of a college/university acceptance letter, if already accepted

If you are already enrolled in a college/university, also include:

- Official college/university transcript

Applications are due by email or postal mail by May 10, 2024.

If you have questions about this application, please contact:

Lisa Waldschmitt
AEF Associate Director
202-789-7065
lisa@americanexperiencefoundation.org