

Frequently Asked Questions:

Support

Who do I contact for questions regarding the scholarship program or application process?

You may call Scholarship America at 507.931.1682 or email CookOstby@scholarshipamerica.org. Please reference the Scott Cook and Signe Ostby Scholarship Program in your inquiry.

Who do I contact for questions regarding program eligibility and employee information?

You may call HR Connect at 800.819.1620 or open a case through this [link](#).

Who do I contact for assistance in writing essays for the application?

Intuit offers [Bright Horizons' College Coach](#) for students applying for this scholarship. Intuit employees in the U.S., the United Kingdom, Canada, and Ireland may utilize this offering for educational advising and to review and edit college applications and scholarship essays by registering on the [Bright Horizons website](#), emailing intuit@getintocollege.com, or calling Bright Horizons at 888-527-3550.

Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply?

Children and dependents (see below), age 25 and under, of regular full-time Intuit employees (in any country) who have a minimum of one year of employment with Intuit as of the application deadline.

Applicants must be either of the following:

- Students in the 8th through 11th grades who are already enrolled or are planning to enroll in a private secondary school.
- High school seniors or graduates who are already enrolled or are planning to enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school. Full-time study is generally defined as at least 12 hours or credits.

Children and dependents are defined as any of the following:

- Biological, step, foster, or adopted children of an eligible Intuit employee.
- Children for whom an eligible Intuit employee is the legal guardian.
- Children for whom an eligible Intuit employee provides healthcare coverage due to a qualified medical child support order.

Children of the President and Chairman are not eligible to apply.

Does previous Intuit employment count?

Yes, previous regular, full-time employment periods are counted towards the eligibility requirement.

Does prior service with a business acquired by Intuit count?

Yes, regular, full-time service completed with an acquired business counts towards the eligibility requirements.

Are children enrolling in graduate school eligible?

No, this program prioritizes secondary school, college/university, and vocational-technical education. Graduate school is not eligible.

Can students reapply if they were not selected previously?

Yes, students are encouraged to reapply if they were not previously awarded the scholarship.

Can students apply if they have already completed some study?

Yes, students may apply at any point during their secondary or post-secondary education.

Can students apply if they are not planning to complete a full year of school?

Yes, students studying for part of a year (e.g., a quarter or semester) may receive a pro-rated award.

What is full-time study?

For most schools, full-time study consists of 12 or more credits per period (e.g., a quarter or semester.)

Application

How does the student apply?

Go to <https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/CookOstby> and register.

When is the deadline to apply?

Applications must be submitted online by 3 pm Central Time on February 3, 2025, and the required online recommendation must be submitted by 3 pm Central Time on February 6, 2025.

I missed the application deadline; may I still submit it?

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept any late submissions.

How do I find the employee ID number?

The employee will need to log into [Workday](#) and click on their profile picture. The employee ID number is under Job Details.

I need help finding the Scott Cook and Signe Ostby Scholarship Program in the list of scholarships.

Once you have accessed the Scholarship America Website, complete and save your profile. The information you provide in your profile will pull in the eligible scholarship(s) offered to children of Intuit employees.

What transcript should I upload?

Upload a copy of your most recent and up-to-date unofficial/official transcript. Be sure that your transcript displays your name, school name, grade, and credit hours earned for each course and the term for each course taken. If you have attended multiple schools, please upload transcripts from each.

What type of GPA should I enter on the application?

U.S. high school students should enter their weighted GPA and include any adjustments the school provides for advanced coursework.

International students may leave the GPA field blank. Scholarship America will assess academic performance based on the documentation submitted.

Should the student submit an SAT or ACT score?

Submission of SAT/ACT scores is optional. Applicants who do not submit SAT/ACT scores will not be penalized in the selection process.

How do I know if the application was submitted?

You will receive a submission confirmation email; please check your junk/spam folder. If you did not receive an email, log in to Scholarship America and click on the "Dashboard" tab. If the application was submitted, it will be listed in the "Submitted" tab in the blue box on the left-hand side. If the application has not yet been submitted, it will be listed in the "Applications" tab in the blue box.

What if the student is undecided about the school they will attend?

The student should enter their first-choice school on the acceptance form but must inform Scholarship America of their chosen school by the end of June.

Does the application process differ by country?

The application process is the same worldwide. While English is preferred, applicants may submit their application and supporting documentation in their preferred language, and Scholarship America will translate the application materials. If needed, Scholarship America will email a request for any additional information needed to process an application.

Recommendation

May I submit a letter of recommendation instead of my recommender using the online form?

Scholarship America cannot accept a letter of recommendation in place of the online recommendation; the recommender must complete the online form before the deadline.

How do I delete or change my recommender?

- To change your recommender, remove your current recommender and add the new one.
- To remove a recommender, go to the "Recommenders" section within your account, which is located at the top right-hand side of your profile page. Find the recommender you would like to remove and uncheck it.
- To add a recommender, first select the program from the drop-down list. Then, enter their name and email address. By clicking "Add Recommender," an automated email will be sent to your recommender on your behalf. You can assign specific recommenders to each of your scholarships. You are responsible for following up with your recommender to ensure they receive the email.

My recommender needs help with login issues. What should they do?

Please make sure the recommender is using the correct link: <https://start.scholarsapply.org/>. The recommender should log in if they have an existing account or create a new account by clicking "I'm a recommender" under "First time here?" The email address they use for the account must match exactly the email address the student provided on their application. After the deadline, the recommender will not be able to log in.

My recommender has an international phone number. What should they do?

The phone number is not a required field on the application. The recommender may leave the field blank. If they wish to provide a phone number, it must be in the U.S. format of 555-555-5555.

How do I know if the recommendation is submitted?

Please log in to the Scholarship America website and click "Recommenders." If the recommendation has been submitted, the status column will state "Completed." If the recommendation has not been submitted, the status column will state "Requested." The student can send a reminder email to the recommender by clicking the blue "Remind" button.

Selection Process

How are applicants selected for scholarship awards?

Scholarship America evaluates the eligible applicant's academic performance, leadership in school and community activities, entrepreneurial and work experience, personal achievement essay response, the online recommendation from a non-related adult, and optional statements submitted regarding home responsibility and personal circumstances/hardships.

The program sponsors' intent is to award "go-getter" applicants who make the best out of any circumstance because of their leadership, drive, determination, and organizational skills.

Financial need is not a factor in the selection process, but Scholarship America considers financial need in determining the award amount.

Do high school students compete with post-secondary students for scholarships?

No, Scholarship America evaluates high school and post-secondary applicants as separate groups.

Does Intuit get involved in the selection process?

No, the selection process is handled exclusively by Scholarship America

Is any employee information utilized in the selection process?

No, employee tenure and employment status are only utilized for eligibility purposes.

How many scholarships will be awarded each year?

The exact number of recipients depends on the number of eligible students who apply. In recent years, about 100 new scholarships have been awarded each year.

Financial Information

How much may be awarded?

Scholarships will range from \$5,950 to \$11,900 annually for up to four years (the amounts are adjusted annually for inflation). The exact amount is based on Scholarship America's determination of financial need. Scholarship recipients who skip the financial section will receive the minimum award. We highly encourage all applicants to complete the financial information section, even if they are unsure they will qualify for a need-based award. Scholarship America cannot accept this information after the application has been submitted.

Will Intuit see the financial information submitted in the student's application?

No, applicants send the application and financial information directly to Scholarship America, which holds it in strict confidence.

What are the tax implications for award recipients?

Please consult your tax advisor to confirm the tax treatment of the award. In the U.S., scholarship awards should be tax-free to the extent that the award does not exceed expenses incurred for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and required equipment (not including room and board).

Where can I find the information needed to complete the financial section?

To complete the financial section, please utilize the most recent tax returns (e.g., IRS Form 1040).

How are the scholarship awards distributed?

For students based in the U.S., checks will be made payable to the student's school but will be sent to the student's home address. It is the student's responsibility to forward the check to the school. International recipients will receive their awards via wire transfer.

How can the award be utilized?

Scholarship awards may be used for tuition, fees, books, and required supplies. Awards may not be used to pay for room and board expenses.

How is this scholarship program funded?

Personal donations from Scott Cook and Signe Ostby.

Notifications and Announcements

When will applicants be notified?

All applicants (award recipients and non-recipients) will be notified in late March (timing is subject to change) at the email address used to register on the Scholarship America application portal.

Will award recipients be announced at Intuit?

Yes, Intuit will send company-wide communications that the Scott Cook and Signe Ostby Scholarship Program recipients have been named and are available for review on the scholarship webpage. Awarded students will remain posted on the scholarship webpage until the following year.

Renewal

What if the student decides to take a gap year?

The student should contact Scholarship America to request a deferral of the scholarship award. Scholarship America will review the request and provide their determination.

What happens to the scholarship if the parent leaves Intuit?

The student may continue to receive the scholarship if they continue to qualify.

What must the student do to renew the scholarship award each year?

Students receiving renewable scholarships must submit a brief online renewal application provided by Scholarship America each year, usually in January, with a due date in February (students that need more time should contact Scholarship America before the deadline). Students must upload their transcript as part of the renewal application. Scholarship America renews the scholarship if the student maintains full-time enrollment and a cumulative grade point average of at least a "B" (3.0 on a 4.0 scale, except for the first year of college, when the minimum GPA is 2.7). Please note that students who receive

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scholarship funds for private secondary school must reapply to receive funding for post-secondary or vocational study (but the maximum of four years of scholarship funding applies to all levels of study combined). If you did not meet the minimum GPA needed to renew and wish to describe extenuating circumstances that impacted your academic performance, please submit this information with your renewal application.