

Keesler Spouses' Club Application for Merit Scholarship Award 2025

Spouse

The Keesler Spouses' Club (KSC) awards scholarships to non-military spouses of active duty, guard, reserve, retired, deceased, or DoD civilian employees assigned, stationed, or home-based at Keesler AFB. The KSC will host a banquet reception honoring scholarship winners that is tentatively scheduled for May 15, 2025.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Applicants must be a high school graduate or a G.E.D. recipient that resides in Hancock, Harrison, or Jackson County in Mississippi. The non-military spouse or the non-military DoD civilian spouse applicant must meet one of the following:
 - a. An Armed Forces service member who is on active status and assigned to Keesler AFB (this includes active guard and reserve members assigned to Keesler AFB),
 - b. A retired, deceased, or missing service member of any Armed Forces,
 - c. A Civil Service employee working at Keesler AFB, or
 - d. A deceased civil service employee or a key civilian personnel employee.
2. Applicants must have a valid dependent ID card or proof of sponsor's DoD civilian employment at Keesler AFB.
3. Applicants must plan to attend an accredited college, university, or vocational school during the 2025-2026 academic year in pursuit of an undergraduate or graduate degree or certificate and must be enrolled as a full or part-time student.
4. Applicants may not have been previously awarded a KSC scholarship.

Awards:

KSC scholarship awards will be paid directly to the attending institution and can be used towards tuition, textbooks, on-campus housing, meal plans, and/or required supplies, equipment, and fees.

The availability of scholarships and their dollar amounts are determined annually, based upon monies donated to and raised by the KSC.

The KSC Scholarship Committee determines appropriate qualification of applicant and distribution of money based on available funds along with the analysis of scores by a separate panel of judges.

Selection Criteria:

1. Academic achievement
2. Work experience
3. Community and/or volunteer activities (i.e., school, church, civic, military, etc.); emphasis towards military contributions (i.e., youth programs, chapel, etc.)
4. Special interests and/or hobbies
5. Essay
6. Resume / Letter of Recommendation

Scholarship Requirements. Applicants will not be evaluated based on race, creed, ethnic origin, religion, and/or gender. Please do not include additional information other than what is requested. Failure to follow directions will result in a deduction of points.

1. A complete application
2. All applicants must submit an unofficial transcript of grades 9 through 12 or the most current unofficial copy of the applicant's college or university transcript (if currently enrolled). Applicants may submit a G.E.D. transcript, if applicable.

3. A letter of recommendation. The letter of recommendation must be from a person outside your family who can provide a character-based reference (e.g., coach, pastor, employer, teacher) and it must have an original signature and be sealed in an envelope, OR complete and current resume.
4. A one-page essay (typed, 200-300 words, double spaced) detailing the applicant's educational aims and life goals.
5. Proof of eligibility. You must include all documentation under the applicable category:
 - a. Active Duty:
 1. Sponsor's orders: Applicant must be listed as a dependent.
 2. A copy of the applicants DD Form 1172, *Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card Deers Enrollment*
 - b. Guard/Reserve:
 1. Sponsor's orders: Applicant must be listed as a dependent.
 2. A copy of the applicant's DD Form 1172, *Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card Deers Enrollment*
 3. Two proofs of residency (i.e., Driver's License, lease, utility bill)
 - c. Retired:
 1. A copy of the applicant's DD Form 1172, *Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card Deers Enrollment*
 2. A DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release of Discharge from Active Duty*
 3. Two proofs of residency (i.e., Driver's License, lease, utility bill)
 - d. Civilian:
 1. Sponsor's proof of civilian employment at Keesler AFB
6. All attachments and supporting documents must accompany the application and be submitted as a single package and must be postmarked on or before February 21, 2025. Submit package to:

KSC Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 5218
Keesler AFB, MS 39534

For questions, please visit www.keeslerspousesclub.org or contact the KSC Scholarship Chairperson at keesler.scholarship@gmail.com.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Instructions:

1. Please read carefully and print legibly in blue or black ink.
2. Complete the application and sign the scholarship agreement.
3. Reference the Scholarship Requirements for proper submission.
4. Return all paperwork and supporting documents by February 21, 2025.

Applicant Information (Questions 1-7).

1. Name _____
Last First Middle
2. Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
3. Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____
4. E-mail Address _____
5. Date of Birth _____
6. High School Attended _____ Graduation Date _____
7. What is your field of study or career plan in college?

Sponsor Information (Questions 1-8).

1. Full Name and Rank _____
2. Relationship to Applicant _____
3. Address (if different from applicant) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
4. E-mail Address _____
5. Branch of Service _____
6. Base Affiliation (i.e., wing, squadron, etc.)

7. Sponsor Status (check one):
Active Duty _____ Guard _____ Reserve _____ DoD Civilian _____ Deceased _____
8. Additional Parent of Guardian's First name? _____

Institution Information (Questions 1-4).

1. What college, university, or vocational school are you currently enrolled or accepted in?

2. Full address of the institution where the scholarship funds will be mailed to:

3. Institution Point of Contact _____
Phone Number _____ E-mail Address _____
4. Student ID Number (if known) _____

I AFFIRM THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN WILL BE USED TO CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY AND MAY BE USED FOR PRESS RELEASES.

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

Signature of Sponsor _____

Date _____

SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT

1. If a selected individual cannot accept the scholarship, it will be given to an alternate. No scholarships will be awarded after July 31, 2025. Monies will be sent directly to the college, university, or vocational school specified by the scholarship recipient and must be used in the 25/26 academic school year. Monies not used must be returned to the Keesler Spouses' Club (KSC).
2. Scholarship funds must be used for full or part-time enrollment and will be applied to tuition, textbooks, on-campus housing, meal plan, and/or required supplies, equipment, or fees.
3. Any recipient accepting an appointment to a military academy is ineligible for a KSC scholarship.
4. If there are changes in a scholarship recipient's enrollment status, eligibility, or attending college, it is the student's responsibility to notify the KSC.
5. All submitted material will become property of the KSC and will be maintained for a period of up to one year. Applicant information provided is protected by 5 USC § 552A, *The Privacy Act of 1974*.
6. A non-biased, independent panel will evaluate all applications. All names and identifying information will be removed from all material that will be viewed by the panel. Applications are ranked by the panel. The KSC Scholarship Committee will be the final determining body for the number of scholarships awarded and the monetary value of each scholarship. This determination will be based on available funds along with the analysis of rankings awarded by the panel.

I have received, read, understand, and meet the KSC scholarship eligibility requirements and agree to abide by all requirements, limitations, and terms regarding eligibility for and acceptance of scholarship money.

In accordance with The Privacy Act of 1974, I agree that my signature on this form will authorize the Scholarship Chairperson to release copies of my transcript(s), scholarship application, and other auxiliary data to the Scholarship Committee and the independent panel of judges, as needed. Pertinent information may also be released to the media if I receive a scholarship.

Printed Name of Applicant _____

Signature of Applicant _____

Date _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Only complete applications will be considered.

Please do not include any additional information other than the items requested. Packages may be stapled or paperclipped; however, do not use report covers, folders or other presentation materials.

_____ Application Package (pages 3-5).

_____ Unofficial transcript of grades 9 through 12 or the most current unofficial copy of the applicant's college or university transcript (if currently enrolled). Applicants may submit a G.E.D. transcript, if applicable.

_____ Letter of Recommendation or Resume

_____ One-Page Student Essay.

_____ Activities Record.

_____ Proof of Eligibility (according to status on page 2).

**The Keesler Spouses' Club congratulates you on continuing your education!
We wish you every success as you continue your pursuits through higher education.**