



2023 Second Chance Scholarship Application

Directions:

Please send the completed application along with your essay to: awards@asherahfoundation.org by July 1, 2023.

You may also mail it to:

Heather MacCleoud, CEO
Asherah Foundation
1400 East West Highway Ste. 1420
Silver Spring, MD 20910 United States

Questions? Please reach out to awards@asherahfoundation.org.

Due to the high volume of inquiries, responses may be delayed. Inquiries about the status of the application once received will not be answered.

Finalists will be contacted directly and should be prepared to provide:

- Two letters of recommendation
- Official copy of your latest transcript
- Documentation of current financial need

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Applicant Name:

City:

State / Province:

Country:

Email Address:

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):

Dependents¹

Number of Dependents:

Please provide the name and date of birth (DOB) of each dependent.

Dependent 1 Name:

Dependent 1 DOB:

Dependent 2 Name:

Dependent 2 DOB:

Dependent 3 Name:

Dependent 3 DOB:

Dependent 4 Name:

Dependent 4 DOB:

II. EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Please provide information about the program of study that you are currently pursuing and for which this scholarship would be provided.

Name of Institution:²

State / Province:

Country:

¹ Are you financially responsible for any dependents (i.e. your children)? Please list the name and date of birth for everyone for whom you are financially or otherwise responsible (i.e. your children). If you have more than four (4), please share their names and dates of birth with us at awards@asherahfoundation.org.

² Name of Institution: Name of the accredited university, college, and/or institute you are enrolled at for the purposes of pursuing a higher education credential to which this scholarship will be applied.

Degree you are pursuing (check one):

- Associates Degree
- Bachelor's Degree (BS, BA, etc.)
- Master's (MS, MA, MPA, MPH, etc.)
- Doctoral Degree (PhD, MD, JD, etc.)
- Undergraduate Certificate
- Graduate Certificate
- Technical (non-academic) Certificate
- Other (please explain)

Field of Study:³

Date Admitted:

Projected Graduation Date (month/year):

III. WORK EXPERIENCE⁴

Please share information about your most recent work experience.

Current Employer:

Average Number of Hours Worked per Week:

Previous Education⁵

Name of Institution:

Country of Institution:

Field of Study⁶

³ What is your area of focus or major (e.g., chemistry, sustainable design, math education, etc.)

⁴ You may also send a resume to awards@asherahfoundation.org.

⁵ Please provide basic information about your previous education. Transcripts may be sent to: awards@asherahfoundation.org. All finalists will be required to supply official transcripts.

⁶ What was your area of focus or major (e.g., chemistry, sustainable design, math education, etc.)

Degree Level (select one)

- Associates Degree
- Bachelor's Degree (BS, BA, etc.)
- Master's (MS, MA, MPA, MPH, etc.)
- Doctoral Degree (PhD, MD, JD, etc.)
- Undergraduate Certificate
- Graduate Certificate
- Technical (non-academic) Certificate
- Other (please explain)

Program Completion (month/year):

V. FINANCIAL NEED

For proposed program of study during AY2023-2024⁷

Number of Courses for Academic Year (AY) 2023-2024 (including Summer 2024 if applicable):

Number of Credit Hours for Academic Year (AY) 2023-2024 (including Summer 2024 if applicable):

Expenses⁸

Tuition and Required Fees for AY 2023-2024 (\$USD)⁹

Related Expenses (Books & Materials, Child Care, Transportation) (\$USD)

Please provide your best estimate for these expenses:

Total Expenses for Academic Year (AY) 2023-2024 (USD\$):

Funding

Does your employer reimburse all or a portion of your tuition/fees?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

⁷ Please share as much information as possible about your anticipated expenses and sources of funding for the 2023-2024 Academic Year (AY). You are encouraged to send documentation (e.g., invoices, bills, statements) to awards@asherahfoundation.org.

⁸ Please provide information about the costs of the academic program you are pursuing for the Academic Year (AY) 2023-2024. You are encouraged to send supporting documentation to awards@asherahfoundation.org.

⁹ Tuition & Required Fees for AY 2023-2024. If you will be taking courses during the Summer of 2024, please include tuition and required fees for that as well.

Have you received any other scholarships or grants for this program of study?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

(If “Yes”) How much have you received from other scholarships or grants?

Amount requested from the Asherah Foundation:

Percentage of Funds Requested from the Asherah Foundation¹⁰

Please share any documentation you have to support these estimated expenses and sources of funding. Send to: awards@asherahfoundation.org. Additional information may be requested throughout the review process.

VI. PERSONAL ESSAY

(500-1000 words: *How this Scholarship Will Give Me a Second Chance*)

Use this opportunity to share details about your personal and/or educational journey, as well as your future aspirations.

Please answer these questions:

1. Educational Journey

- How have you demonstrated commitment to your current educational pathway?
- How have you demonstrated academic progress throughout your life?

2. Financial Need

- Why do you need this scholarship?
- How might it help you?

3. Resilience

- Why do you need a second chance at higher education?
- How have you been resilient in overcoming obstacles throughout your life?

4. Potential for Impact

- What are the potential impacts of receiving this degree/certificate?
- How might it impact you?
- How might it impact your family and/or community?
- How might it impact larger groups (example: your region/country, single mothers? Girls interested in STEM, etc.)

This essay should be sent to awards@asherahfoundation.org.

¹⁰ What percentage of all educational expenses are being requested from the Asherah Foundation?

VII. SECOND CHANCE

Please share more information about your need for this scholarship.

Which of these issues have interrupted your educational journey (check all that apply)

- Natural & Environmental Disasters (Earthquakes, Forest Fires, Flooding, Typhoon or Hurricane, etc.)
- COVID-19
- Other Illness/Public Health Crisis
- Civil (Domestic) Conflict
- International Conflict
- Political Persecution
- Climate Change Displacement
- Single Mother
- Child/Forced Marriage
- Discrimination (gender, age, caste, race, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic, political, sexual orientation)
- Different Abilities / Disabilities
- Unemployment
- Other
- None of the Above

Please explain how the issues that you have selected above have interrupted your educational journey.¹¹

¹¹ Additional information may be sent to: awards@asherahfoundation.org.

VIII. APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

Applicant's Signature:

Application Date:

Financial Statement:

I hereby state that I need financial assistance to help pay for my education as shared in this application and that the scholarship will be used for that purpose. The scholarship will be provided to the accredited higher education institution and the degree program listed above in Section II: Educational Goals.

Accuracy:

I hereby state that all information contained in this application and all supporting materials is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Use of Application Materials:

The information provided in this application including the required essay and a photo of myself may be used for promotional and research purposes. I also understand that I may request that my name and other identifying details be changed for all outreach, research, and promotional purposes to protect my identity. However, I understand that the scholarship will be given in my legal name and that all identifying information will be available to those involved in the scholarship selection and awarding process, including the institution to which the scholarship funds will be paid. I waive any right to damages that may result as a consequence of applying for this scholarship.

Obligations of the Scholarship Recipient:

I understand that upon acceptance of this scholarship that I:

- Must complete a minimum of 9 hours a semester (16 week period) unless having prior approval from the Asherah Foundation.
- Must submit any changes in writing from one program to another for prior approval of the Foundation.
- Must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 (on a 4 point scale) and/or make sufficient academic progress in my program as agreed to by the Asherah Foundation.
- Must report to the Foundation in writing, the status of my educational/training efforts each semester or term; including the ways in which this scholarship has been helpful in providing a second chance.
 - Status update #1 will be due December 1, 2023
 - Status update #2 will be due June 1, 2024
- Must provide regular updates to the Asherah Foundation for two (2) years after the receipt of any scholarship to encourage other women around the world who need a second chance and who may be inspired by my educational journey.
- Must be free of substance abuse.
- Must have financial status reviewed on a semester basis. This may include providing documentation of ongoing need and/or receipts documenting how funds have been used.

Additional Materials:

Please be prepared to provide these materials if requested throughout the review process

- **Two (2) Letters of Recommendation**
Two letters of recommendation from non-relatives are required to be sent to the Asherah Foundation.
- **Two (2) References**
Names and addresses of two other persons who have known you for five years or more
- **Transcripts from previous education programs**
Important Note: It is the applicant's responsibility to forward to the Asherah Foundation an official copy of her most recent transcript.
- **Documentation of Estimated Costs**
Tuition/Fees, Books and Materials, Child Care, Transportation
- **Incomplete Applications Will Not Be Accepted.**