

Judy Aitken Memorial Refugee Scholarship

Student Application Guidelines & Requirements

(Established in 2019)

1. This fund is for Southeast Asian **Refugee** Undergraduate Theology or Religion students (who experienced life as a refugee or the child of a family who experienced being refugees) living in the North American Division (NAD) and attending a Seventh-day Adventist College or University and have a desire for serving in ministry in North America.
2. Must be a US or Canadian citizen or have legal refugee or resident status (UNHCR status and/or citizenship status to be provided by applicants and kept on file at ASAP). Applicants must not be on a student visa or foreign passport while attending school.
3. Applicants must provide ASAP Ministries with an application and all necessary documents (See Application for full details) and can only apply after completing one year of college. Complete all required sections of the application. If you are a first-time application, please complete each section. If you are applying a second time or more, please complete sections 1-3, 6, and 7. Application link: <https://forms.gle/MUUJR6KBuSmjoSi69>.
 - a. Four personal references should include: 1. Pastor; 2. University/College Professor; 3. Ministry Leader/Pastor from your language group; 4. Person of your choosing (Cannot be a family member)
 - b. School financial statement from previous school year
 - c. GPA report from previous school year
 - d. Proof of summer earnings
 - e. A recent photo of yourself
4. Scholarship applicants must maintain a passing GPA (2.0 and above).
5. Students must provide proof of summer work.
 - This can include summer Literature Evangelism programs and SDA Summer Camps. (*At least one summer of literature evangelism is highly recommended.*)
 - If an applicant is engaged in an unpaid summer internship with a pastor/church/conference, please state the details of your service with a letter of recommendation from the Senior Pastor/Head Elder/Administrator.
 - If it is a paid internship (i.e. Barnabas Project), please report it with your earnings statement and a letter of recommendation.
6. Scholarship is awarded on a graduated matching basis and determined case by case as scholarship funds allow.
 - Matching Graduated Scholarships begin with (as funds are available):
 - Sophomore Year: 100% matching up to \$2000 maximum
 - Junior Year: 150% matching up to \$3000 maximum
 - Senior Year: 200% matching up to \$4000 maximum

7. ASAP will maintain records of each application and all supporting documents for every applicant requesting the scholarship. All documents and applicant information will be kept confidential and will not be shared or discussed beyond the scholarship committee.

8. Short-term mission trips or serving as a student missionary are encouraged. To learn more, talk with your Campus Ministry chaplains or church pastors. ASAP Ministries has a Student Missionary program that is also available.

9. Scholarship Timeline:

- a. March 1: Online Scholarship Application made available
- b. July 31: Application deadline. All applications must be received by this date. (Online Application portal closes)
- c. August 1-31: Scholarship Committee follows up with calling references; committee meetings to decide on scholarship awards.
- d. September 1: Award letters sent.
- e. September 30: Disbursement of funds sent to colleges.

10. **Note:** Once the committee has decided on awarding the scholarships in August, a letter will be sent by mail stating if you have been denied or approved the scholarship. If approved the amount of the award will be included in the letter. Also included in the letter is a Statement of Agreement and Release*. This form will need to be signed and sent back (mail or electronically) to ASAP Ministries before funds can be disbursed to your college/university. If the form is not returned, the grant will not be awarded. *(Please be sure to include the best address for receiving mail when you fill out the application.)*

11. **Second Semester Emergency Assistance:** Upon request and available funding, an emergency distribution of funds may be approved for the second semester. Second semester scholarship distribution must meet the following requirements:

- a. Request and fill out an application requesting second semester assistance and submit to ASAP Ministries.
- b. Provide proof of earnings from work in the previous semester and winter break by submitting: copy of paystub or statement of earnings with a total amount earned during the previous semester.
- c. Submit a finance statement from the college/university detailing what has been paid and what is still needed for the second semester.
- d. Emergency scholarship will be provided on a matching basis only (not a graduated matching basis).
- e. If the applicant is involved in an unpaid internship (internship must be related to the field of study) during the school semester they need to include the following with the application: Number of hours served in the internship and a letter of recommendation from the Pastor detailing their recommendation and the student's involvement.

12. Students who are awarded scholarships are requested to provide 2-page double-spaced testimony, with a couple of pictures, summarizing how they have seen God work through your year of study and ministry activities. This may be included in an article sent out by ASAP Ministries or posted to our webpage. Testimony is due by May 31 of the year being supported

with a scholarship. Not sharing a testimony report will disqualify the student from being eligible for a scholarship in the following school year.

a. Testimony should be typewritten and can be submitted through this google form or by email on a word document to: refugees@asapministries.org

13. The scholarship is based on a student attending a full academic year (fall and spring semester). If a student is enrolled for only half, then they receive half of the funds being granted.

ASAP Ministries

Advocates for Southeast Asians and the Persecuted

P. O. Box 84, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Tel: (269) 471-3026 asapministries.org

email: office@asapministries.org; refugees@asapministries.org

*Statement of Agreement and Release:

Agreement and Statement of Release:

I (the applicant) understand and have read the student guidelines and agree to the terms and conditions stated in the student guidelines. I agree to only use the scholarship funds, if awarded, for the use of tuition and school expenses and that said disbursement will be sent to the college/university stated in the application.

I (the applicant) agree to be interviewed and for ASAP Ministries to use my interview and picture for the use of promoting the scholarship and fundraising. I acknowledge that ASAP will also keep all my personal information confidential and will contact me prior to the publication or use of any material.

I (the applicant) agree to provide a 1000 word testimony by May 15 (after the school year has ended) along with a couple of photos about how I saw God at work in my life and studies. I accept that not doing this may disqualify me from being able to reapply to the scholarship.