

CSU TRUSTEES' AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

The William Randolph Hearst Foundation established an endowed scholarship fund in 1984 to honor William Randolph Hearst, founder of the Hearst newspaper chain. In 1999, the William Randolph Hearst Foundation partnered with the CSU Board of Trustees to create the CSU Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement. Contributions from CSU Trustees and private donors increase the value and number of available awards. Special named scholarships will be awarded by the selection committee based on criteria such as studying in the STEM or education fields, veterans, and exemplary community service.

The awards recognize students who have overcome adversity, demonstrated financial need, and have attributes of merit including superior academic performance, significant personal achievements, and exemplary community service. The recipient who receives the highest score by the CSU Foundation scholarship selection committee is designated the Trustee Emeritus Ali C. Razi Scholar and will receive a \$18,000 scholarship. Also distributed will be the Reed Scholarship (\$12,000), the Hampton Scholarship (\$11,000), and the Galinson Scholarship (\$9,000).

Twenty-three (23) scholarships will be awarded. Most scholarships will be \$7,000. Applicants must:

- Demonstrate superior academic performance with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and be in good academic standing.
- Demonstrate financial need as determined by the campus Financial Aid Office.
- Be currently enrolled as a full-time equivalent undergraduate or graduate student in any major field at a CSU campus and remain a CSU full-time equivalent student during the academic year.

Applications are available through the campus Financial Aid Office.

Financial Aid Offices on each campus will review the applications to ensure that they meet all requirements and, in consultation with the campus President, will select and forward **one final nominee**. Nominees with the highest scores will be interviewed for one of the top scholarship awards.

Completed nominations submitted by the campus Financial Aid Office to the CSU Foundation will include the following:

- Nomination Cover Letter from the Campus President
- Personal Statement (300 word count for each):
 1. What experience has impacted your personal growth?
 2. Tell us about a time you failed. What did you learn from that experience?
 3. Why are you pursuing your major? How does it relate to your career aspirations?
 4. Provide an example of service beyond the classroom (i.e., have you taken on significant family obligations, helped others in a specific way, been involved in political action, worked/volunteered/interned at a particular organization, etc.). Why is this example significant to you?
- Two letters of reference from individuals, such as teachers/professors, counselors, or community leaders, who can attest to the candidate's meritorious performance and personal strengths and assess the nominee's potential for success. **One of the letters of reference must be from an academic instructor.**

Supplemental Materials

Once the final nominee is selected, campuses will work with corresponding communications team to submit the following supplemental materials to the CSU Foundation:

- **A one-paragraph Biography**, which must be approved by the campus Public Affairs Department (*see Checklist and Biography Guidelines*)
- **Photos of the nominee**, including a formal headshot to include in the program and individual informal shots of the nominee on campus, at home, at work, or at play. The informal photos can come from the nominee's own collection, but must be submitted **via email (preferably through an online file sharing site)**. If the nominee does not have a formal headshot, then the campus Public Affairs department may assist before the student leaves the campus for the summer.
- **Biographical Statement Copy Release Form** and **Visual/Audio Image Release Form**, need to be signed and submitted. The stories and the photos of the Trustees' Awards recipients are publicized widely.

All recipients of the CSU Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement will be invited to attend the awards presentation on September 12, 2023 at the Board of Trustees meeting. If held in person, transportation expenses will be covered by the CSU Foundation.