

JUF's COVID-19 Initiative Academic Scholarships

The FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment must be completed by March 22, 2021

JUF's COVID-19 Initiative is providing academic scholarships to Jewish high school graduates who have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic crisis. These scholarships will be administered by the Jewish United Fund and are not renewable.

Eligibility & Guidelines

1. To be eligible for a financial need scholarship, the student must:
 - Identify as Jewish.
 - Live in Metropolitan Chicago (Will, Cook, DuPage, McHenry, Lake and Kane Counties).
 - Demonstrate financial need.
 - Demonstrate impact of COVID-19 on student or family.
 - Attend school part time or full time.
 - Attend an accredited institution including four-year colleges/universities, community colleges, and vocational/trade schools.

Preferences will be given to undergraduate students attending Illinois institutions.
2. **Income guidelines:** Please keep in mind that funds are limited, and requests greatly exceed demand. We work hard to make sure that the neediest families are given priority. While we do consider the family's total financial picture, not just income, *families earning in excess of \$100,000 annually should contact JVSscholarship@jvschicago.org before applying.*
3. The application should be filled out by parents/guardians except for students who are independent of their parents.
4. To complete the application, the following documents will be needed:
 - Detailed copies of all pages and schedules of most recent (2019 or 2020) Federal Income Tax Return Form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ (**as filed with the IRS**) for parents/guardians and student. Recaps and/or Summary Forms are not acceptable. If you file Schedule A, B, C, D, E or F, you must provide copies. If you do not have a tax return for either of these last two years, please contact JVSscholarship@jvschicago.org.
 - Copies of all 2020 W-2 Wage and Tax Statement Forms for parents/guardians and student.
 - Verification of tuition and other school fees.

IMPORTANT: If the above items are not included, your application will not be considered complete.

Application link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/4NJD8>

Additional Information

- JUF scholarship funds are limited, and we have many requests for financial assistance. Therefore, we must examine the resources of each family carefully to be sure that the scholarships are granted to the applicants deemed most in need of financial assistance. We want you understand that **the basic requirement for a JUF scholarship is the demonstration of financial need.**
- **No full scholarships are awarded.** Applicants are required to seek other scholarship assistance in addition to the JUF scholarship.
- The Scholarship Committee of the Jewish United Fund will make the final decisions on the awarding of scholarships after assessing each applicant's situation on an individual basis. Remember that this is only an application for financial assistance and that no guarantee or promise of receiving a scholarship can be made until the Scholarship Committee reaches its decisions.
- JUF will treat your application and all of the information provided to us with the strictest confidentiality. Your name and other identifying information will not be included in any materials sent to the Scholarship Committee.
- You will be notified of the Scholarship Committee's decision by e mail in early May. No information on scholarship awards will be given by phone.
- We ask that you provide any other information that you think would be helpful to us in making our evaluation of your application.

If you or your family has any questions about eligibility, about answering the questions on the application, or about any of the required materials, please email JVSScholarship@jvschicago.org.