

SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF)** is the nation's largest 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides scholarships to Asian and Pacific Islander Americans (APIAs) with financial need. Our vision is that all APIAs who wish to pursue higher education have that opportunity, regardless of their ethnicity, national origin or financial means.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- ✎ Be of Asian and/or Pacific Islander ethnicity as defined by the U.S. Census
- ✎ Be a citizen, national, or legal permanent resident of the United States. Citizens of the Freely Associated States are also eligible to apply.
- ✎ Be enrolling in a U.S. accredited college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking, first-year student
- ✎ Must apply for federal financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

APIASF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- ✎ Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED

Please email questions to scholarshipquestions@apiasf.org or call toll free (877) 808-7032 x207

GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS (GMS)

- ✎ Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED
- ✎ Meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria
- ✎ Have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities

Please email questions to gmsoutreach@apiasf.org or call toll free (866) 274-4677 x104

ABOUT US

The Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) is the nation's largest 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides scholarships to Asian and Pacific Islander Americans (APIAs) with financial need. Based in Washington, DC, APIASF was formed in 2003. **Our vision** is to see that all Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have access to higher education and resources that cultivate their academic, personal and professional success regardless of their ethnicity, national origin or financial means. **Our mission** is to make a difference in the lives of APIA students by providing them with resources that increase their access to higher education which serves as the foundation for their future success and contributions to a stronger America.

THE NEED FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR APIA STUDENTS

- Asian & Pacific Islander Americans are frequently, though misleadingly, deemed a well-educated and financially successful population
- It is well-documented, however, that many Asian and Pacific Islander ethnic groups have educational levels that are below the national average, with several ranking among the lowest in the nation
- In addition, 13% of Asian Americans and 17% of Pacific Islanders live in poverty compared to 12% of the general population, with several Asian American ethnic groups having poverty rates significantly higher than many other ethnic groups in the United States
- Studies have shown that APIA students may be marginalized and overlooked in leadership development programs on college campuses; in addition they may not readily relate to or embrace the label of "leader" relative to their White peers
- Based on these and other statistics, APIASF endeavors to provide scholarships to APIA students in our community who:
 - * live at or below the poverty level, or are otherwise of low socioeconomic status;
 - * are underrepresented on college campuses due to limited access and opportunity; and
 - * have placed strong emphasis on community service and leadership as well as on solid academic achievement

APIASF'S SCHOLARSHIPS

APIASF manages two scholarship programs: APIASF's general scholarship for freshmen and the Gates Millennium Scholars/Asian Pacific Islander Americans (GMS/APIA). Funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and administered by UNCF, the GMS/APIA program provides outstanding Pell Grant eligible APIA students with an opportunity to complete an undergraduate college education in any discipline they choose and a graduate degree in specific fields. APIASF assumed the administration of this program in September 2006.

APIASF'S SUPPORTERS

Supporters of APIASF include members of the general public and a wide spectrum of community and professional leaders, organizations and corporations. Corporate supporters include, but are not limited to: Abercrombie & Fitch, AT&T, Bank of America, Chrysler, The Coca-Cola Foundation, Darden Restaurants Foundation, Farmers Insurance, FedEx, General Mills, Hilton Hotels Corporation, IBM, ING, Kellogg's, Macy's Inc., McDonald's USA/Asian McDonald's Operators Association, Met Life, Nationwide, Sodexo Foundation, Southern California Edison, Target, United Health Foundation, USA Funds, U.S. Navy, Wachovia, Wal-Mart Foundation and Wells Fargo. For more information about APIASF's mission and program, please visit www.apiasf.org.

SUPPORT US

Your support is needed today! Contributions to APIASF enable us to increase the number of scholarships we award and ensure that as many APIA students as possible can pursue their career through higher education. Together we can make a difference. To make a contribution and for other information please contact:



APIASF
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