RSM US FOUNDATION

RSM

2027 RSM US Foundation frequently asked questions

Power Your Education U.S. and First Generation scholarships

Scholarship program overview

What scholarship programs are available?

The RSM US Foundation offers two scholarship programs for U.S. college and university students pursuing bachelor's degrees in business or technology:

- Power Your Education: Twenty students will receive $10,000 scholarships for the 2027/2028 academic year, for a total of up to $200,000.
- First Generation: Five first-generation students will receive up to $10,000 per academic year, renewable for up to three years. Each recipient may receive up to $30,000, for a total of up to $150,000.

Each recipient will also be invited to attend an optional RSM information session.

How and when are scholarship funds disbursed?

Scholarship funds for the 2027/28 academic year will be sent directly to the recipient's college or university in a single payment in fall 2027. Recipients must meet all eligibility requirements at the time of payment.

First Generation scholarship winners may renew for up to two additional academic years while continuing to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree in business or technology. The First Generation scholarship is not payable beyond the 2029-2030 academic year.

What can the scholarship funds be used for?

Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the recipient's college or university and applied to invoiced expenses such as tuition, on-campus housing and dining plans. Funds cannot be used for off-campus housing or disbursed directly to the recipient. To receive the scholarship, recipients must have eligible expenses billed by their institution.

What if I receive other scholarships or financial aid?

The RSM US Foundation cannot guarantee how your school will apply the scholarship or whether it will affect your financial aid package. The Foundation cannot modify payment timing or term designation to address school-specific financial aid policies.

Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply?

For the full eligibility requirements, refer to **section one of the applicable Terms and Conditions**. In summary, applicants for either program must:

- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident (holder of a Permanent Resident Card), an individual granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program or an individual with asylee, refugee or temporary protected status who is authorized to work in the U.S.
- Be at least 18 years old at the time of application.

- Be a freshman, sophomore or junior pursuing a bachelor's degree in business or technology at an accredited college or university in the 50 United States or the District of Columbia.
- Be enrolled full-time and in good academic standing, with a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher.
- For those who wish to opt-in to be considered for the First Generation scholarship, you must also have no immediate family members from previous generations who have earned a bachelor's degree. Applicants are still considered first-generation students if their sibling(s) have earned or are currently pursuing a bachelor's degree.

RSM interns, including individuals who have accepted a future internship or completed an internship, may apply for and receive a scholarship. Internship status has no bearing on the likelihood of receiving an award.

Who is not eligible?

Full-time or part-time employees, temporary employees, partners, principals or contractors, and their immediate family members, of RSM US LLP, Risk & Regulatory Consulting, LLC, their respective affiliated entities and the RSM US Foundation are not eligible.

Application process

When can I apply?

Eligible students may submit applications between 12:01 a.m. Central Time on December 1, 2026, and 11:59 p.m. Central Time on February 28, 2027.

May I apply for both scholarships?

Yes. You may apply for both programs if you meet each program's eligibility requirements, and both can be selected within the same application form. Review the Terms and Conditions for each program before applying. If selected, you may receive only one scholarship award.

What do I need to apply?

Applicants must prepare an original video, a program-specific statement and an unofficial transcript.

The statement and video must reflect the applicant's own original ideas, experiences, judgment and voice. Applicant may use AI tools to support the application process, such as for brainstorming, outlining, grammar, spelling, organization or clarity; however, AI may not be used as a substitute for the applicant's own thought, reflection or creative expression and the statement and video may not be generated primarily or entirely by AI.

The statement and video must contain original content of the applicant and must not contain material from preexisting written or visual works, AI-generated content or any other source in a manner that misrepresents authorship, replaces the applicant's own personal reflection or violates or infringes another's rights (or that will give rise to any claims whatsoever regarding such rights), including, but not limited to, privacy, publicity or intellectual property rights or that constitutes copyright infringement.

- **Video:**
  - Create a **30 to 60 second** video demonstrating which of RSM's 5 C's comes most naturally to you and best fits you.
  - Learn more about RSM's 5 C's.
  - **Videos shorter than 30 seconds or longer than 60 seconds will result in disqualification**.

  - Upload the video to YouTube and select “Unlisted” so it can be viewed by anyone with the direct link but does not appear in YouTube search results, your channel page, subscriber feeds, recommendations or related videos.
  - You will need the video link when submitting your application.
- **Statement:**
  - Power Your Education U.S.: Up to 500 characters explaining how you strive to build community.
  - First Generation: Up to 1,500 characters explaining what motivates you to grow forward as a first-generation student.
- **Unofficial transcript:** Obtain a copy of your unofficial transcript.

How do I submit my application?

Once you have your unlisted YouTube video link, statement and unofficial transcript:

- Click the link below to be redirected to the application site through Blackbaud’s GrantsConnect.
  - https://apply.yourcausegrants.com/apply/programs/e2bf981e-0f2f-4141-b50b-49971f3da41d
- Create an account or sign in if you are a returning user.
- Select “Start new application” and answer the eligibility questions.
- Eligible students will be prompted to begin the application.
- Complete the form, accept the applicable terms, and submit the application.
- You cannot edit an application after it is submitted.
- You will receive an email confirmation after submission.

Selection and notification

How will recipients be selected?

- Applications will be judged by the quality of the video (75%) and statement (25%).
- Judges will grade the video and statement on a scale of one to seven, with seven as the highest score.
- The video will be evaluated based on professionalism, originality, substantive content, charisma, passion, thoughtfulness and creativity in explaining how the selected RSM 5 C comes most naturally to and best fits the applicant.
- The statement will be evaluated based on creativity, writing quality and reflection of the applicant’s individuality.
- Judges may consider whether the statement and video reflect the applicant’s authentic voice, personal reflection, originality and independent judgment, including whether any use of AI tools appears to have enhanced clarity or organization without replacing the applicant’s own ideas, experiences or creative expression.
- Applicants with the highest scores will move forward for review by a panel of judges.
- Final recipients will be selected based on the panel’s view of which applications demonstrate the best understanding of, and highest potential impact on RSM’s 5 C’s and profession.
- Twenty Power Your Education U.S. recipients and five First Generation recipients will be selected.

When will I know if I am selected?

The RSM US Foundation will attempt to notify selected recipients around the middle of May.

If I do not receive an award, may I apply again next year?

Yes. You may apply for future scholarship opportunities if you continue to meet the eligibility requirements.

Questions

Email RSMscholarships@rsmus.com