

FAQs for CSEA Foundation Scholarship

General Question:

Question: What does affiliate mean? My parents are in a union but I don't know which one.

Answer: The California State Employees Association Foundation affiliates are

- ACSS (Association of California State Supervisors)
- California State Retirees
- CSUEU (California State University Employees Union)
- SEIU Local 1000
- UAW Local 2350

College and University Selection Questions:

Question: Can I apply if I haven't received acceptance from universities and/or colleges yet?

Answer: Yes. If you are selected as a recipient of a scholarship, we will contact you and get that updated information from you.

Question: Can I apply if I'm going to graduate school?

Answer: Yes

Question: Can I apply if I graduated from high school years ago?

Answer: Yes.

Question: I'm a stepchild of a qualifying member, can I apply?

Answer: Yes

Chapter/DLC and Member Numbers Questions:

Question: My mother is my sponsor and works for a state agency. She is a member of SEIU 1000 but has not found a Chapter or DLC#. Do you know if this applies to SEIU 1000? She does have a CSEA member ID#.

Answer: If she is a member of SEIU Local 1000, she can contact SEIU Local 1000 to confirm her Member ID and DLC# by calling 1-866-488-7248.

Question: I was a supervisor and retired last June 2020. I returned as a Retired Annuitant Investigator, not as a supervisor. Is my child eligible to apply for the scholarship? Right now, I am not sure if I am still paying ACSS dues or not.

Answer: To confirm membership, you should contact the affiliate to confirm your Member ID # and Chapter/DLC#:

- SEIU Local 1000 Membership Services – 1-866-488-7248
- ACSS, CSUEU & CA State Retiree Membership Services – 916-326-4300

Letters of Recommendation Questions:

Question: Do I need to send recommendation letters and transcripts in a separately sealed envelope?

Answer: Documents do not have to be in a sealed envelope, they can be attached in the application packet.

Question: Is there a link for the letters of recommendation? One of my sons' teachers is asking for it but said he would email it to you directly.

Answer: Due to the Pandemic, we changed submission criteria to allow applicants to email scholarship documents directly to the CSEA Foundation President. This includes letters of recommendation. It is suggested that all emailed documents have the applicant's name on each piece submitted. Email to jkennedy.csueu@gmail.com

Question: The scholarship application states that the packet requires two letters of recommendation. However it does not specify if the letter of recommendations should be sealed or not. Would the foundation prefer for applicants to provide sealed letters of recommendation?

Answer: Letters of recommendation do not have to be in a sealed envelope.

Question: I was wondering what format the letters of recommendation should be in? Can I submit a printed version of a pdf that my recommender sent me, or should they mail the letter to me so I can submit it unopened?

Answer: Either way is fine.

Question: Would I ask my recommenders to send me a copy and attach it to my application or do they need to send it directly to the CSEA Foundation through email or mail?

Answer: We know that it may be difficult because of Pandemic that this may be a problem. Therefore, we are allowing applicants to submit items in two different methods. Letters of recommendation may be included in the scholarship packet but may also be emailed to this email address (jkennedy.csueu@gmail.com).

Transcript Questions:

Question: With the school closures, my son's high school is asking him to print his transcripts from the online system that they have. Is this, okay?

Answer: Yes

Question: Do my transcripts have to be sealed in an envelope? Do they have to be official or can they be unofficial?

Answer: Due to the Pandemic, the Foundation will accept:

- 1) sealed and unsealed transcripts
- 2) official and unofficial transcripts.

The Foundation reserves the right to verify all transcripts submitted.

Submission Questions:

Question: I will be submitting my application packet later today via email, which the bottom of the application said I could do. Am I supposed to send those in my application packet or do I provide the information of those who wrote them and they would send them directly to you? Usually, the request is sent to my professors and they would send them in to avoid issues. However, on the application, it looks like I'm supposed to send it in.

Answer: You may provide them the email (jkennedy.csueu@gmail.com) or you may include them with your packet.

Miscellaneous Questions:

Question: I am applying for the CSEA scholarship. I wanted to ask if I would receive an email informing me that the foundation has received my application in the mail.

Answer: Notification of mailed applications will take up to two weeks. Staff are working from home and only go to the office once a week.

Question: Regarding criteria #4 "Summary of any honors received, community service work, participation in extracurricular activities and/ or work experience." Can I include this in the #2 essay portion? Or does #4 have to be a separate document?

Answer: Each section is scored separately; this is the reason it needs to be a separate section.

Question: My dad was a member of a qualified affiliate but he passed away, can I still apply?

Answer: We are sorry for your loss. Unfortunately, he would no longer be a member and therefore, you would not be able to apply.