



Alternative Learning Environments

Students who are homeschooled may also apply to our scholarship program. Homeschooled students must be nominated by a nationally recognized homeschool organization, a state-approved or recognized homeschool community or organization, or an independently verified (by an educational authority) cohort of homeschool students. It is the responsibility of the homeschool organization, community or cohort to provide evidence that they are nationally recognized, state-approved or recognized, or an independently verified by an educational authority.

Each homeschool organization, community or cohort is eligible to nominate only one student to apply for our scholarship program.

The nomination process is an important part of the program. The process takes a different form at different schools and within different homeschool communities. In a traditional school, it always includes a panel of educators (teachers, guidance counselors, and/or administrators) choosing among students that they all work with. In a homeschool community, it requires a national or state approved or recognized homeschool organization or community, or an independently verified cohort of homeschool students choosing among students whose work and leadership qualities they are familiar with. Each nominator must show that the nominee demonstrates leadership qualities, has been homeschooled in compliance with the law and regulations of the state in which the nominee is domiciled, and meets academic standards comparable to those applicable to traditionally-schooled nominees. The nominator is required to work with students other than the nominee to ensure a fair representation of the nominee's eligibility in comparison to his/her peers. The Carson Scholars Fund strives to achieve a fair comparison of all nominated students.

The ability of a homeschooled student to apply is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. It is the responsibility of the homeschool organization, community, or cohort to prove their eligibility.

Scholarships are awarded solely on the basis of academic achievement and humanitarian qualities, without regard to financial need or ethnicity.