

2016 DIRECTV Scholarship Program Guidelines

Eligibility

Applicants to the DIRECTV Scholarship Program must be:

- Dependent children*, age 24 and under, of full-time DIRECTV employees in good standing (no current or pending disciplinary action) who have a minimum of 90 days of employment with the company as of May 5, 2016 and who are still employed and in good standing at the time awards are paid.
 - Dependent children are defined as natural and legally adopted children or stepchildren living in the employee's household or primarily supported by the employee.
- U.S. and Latin American high school seniors, graduates, or current postsecondary undergraduates.
- Enrolled in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two-or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school, or the international equivalent, for the entire 2016-2017 academic year.

Awards

- Up to forty (40) awards of \$3,000 will be granted each year to students majoring in the field of their choice. These awards are based on criteria of financial need, academic merit, and leadership and community involvement.
- One (1) Susan Eid Public Policy Scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 will be granted for
 demonstrated commitment to Public Policy. It will be given to a student who plans to major in a
 related field (i.e. Government Affairs/Relations, Political Science, Civic Engagement, Pre-Law, etc.)
 and has also been involved in student government, model UN or related activities. Applicants
 interested in being considered for the Susan Eid Public Policy Scholarship must submit a response to
 the associated essay question on the online application.
- One (1) DIRECTV Social Impact Scholarship in the amount of \$10,000 will be granted. The award will be paid out in equal increments, either \$2,500 for four years, or \$5,000 for two years, over the course of the winner's undergraduate studies (not to exceed four years). This award is for outstanding service to the community/environment. It will be given to a student pursuing a related field, including but not limited to education, public policy, environmental sustainability, social work, nonprofit management, international development, social entrepreneurship, etc. Applicants interested in being considered for the DIRECTV Social Impact Award must submit a response to the associated essay question on the online application.

Awards are not renewable, but students may reapply to the program each year they meet the eligibility requirements. All awards are for undergraduate study only.

Application

- To start an application, go to http://programs.applyists.com/DIRECTV and select the 'Click Here to Apply' link. You will be taken to a page where you can create an account with International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc. by entering your email address, creating a password and providing your birthdate.
- The email address on file in your student profile must be active and you must check your email regularly. Keep a record of your username and password.
- Then you will be taken into the application. You may complete the application in any order you prefer. Data is automatically saved as you move from one page to the next. You may exit at any time and return to make changes or complete the process until **May 5, 2016**. You must click the 'Submit' button on the last page for your application to be accepted.

All scholarship notifications will come from <u>contactus@applyists.com</u>. <u>Please add this address to your</u> email address book or "safe senders list" so these important emails are not sent to your junk mail folder.

Required Documents

Applicants must also upload the following documents to ISTS no later than May 5, 2016:

- 1. A current, complete **transcript of grades**. Grade reports are not accepted. Transcripts must display student name, school name, grades and credit hours for each course and term in which each course was taken.
- 2. Copy of the first two pages of the DIRECTV employee's most recently filed IRS Form 1040, or applicable National Tax Documentation for students outside of the U.S.

Program Deadline

Your application must be submitted by 11:59 p.m., May 5, 2016. Your documents must be uploaded by May 5, 2016.

Selection of Recipients

General Scholarship Awards

Scholarship recipients for the up to 40 general scholarship awards are selected primarily on the basis of financial need. Also considered are academic record, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience, statement of goals and aspirations, and unusual personal or family circumstances.

Applicant evaluation will compare applicants only against other applicants from the same country.

Susan Eid Public Policy Scholarship

Selection of the Susan Eid Public Policy award will be based on demonstrated commitment to Public Policy. It will be given to a student who plans to major in a related field (i.e. Government Affairs/Relations, Political Science, Civic Engagement, Pre-Law, etc.) and has also been involved in student government, model UN or related activities. Applicants interested in being considered for the Susan Eid Public Policy Scholarship must submit a response to the associated essay question on the online application.

DIRECTV Social Impact Scholarship

Selection of the DIRECTV Social Impact award will be based on outstanding service to the community/environment. It will be given to a student pursuing a related field, including but not limited to education, public policy, environmental sustainability, social work, nonprofit management, international development, social entrepreneurship, etc. Applicants interested in being considered for the DIRECTV Social Impact Award must submit a response to the associated essay question on the online application.

Selection of recipients is made by ISTS, Inc. In no instance does any officer or employee of DIRECTV play a part in the selection. All applicants agree to accept the decision as final.

All applicants will be notified by June 2016. Not all applicants to the program will be selected as recipients. Students may reapply to the program each year they meet eligibility requirements.

Payment of Scholarships

Checks will be issued to U.S. recipients in mid-July to each recipient's mailing address and made payable to the institution listed in 'My Profile' on your homepage at https://aim.applyists.net. The institution you list in your application will update your profile. However, if you need to change your institution after the application period ends, you must do so by clicking on 'My Profile' from your homepage. Latin American recipients will have funds wired in August 2016. Funds will be transferred based on the information provided in the award acceptance form.

Obligations

Recipients have no obligation to DIRECTV. They are, however, required to notify ISTS, Inc. of any changes in address, school enrollment, or other relevant information, and to send a complete transcript when requested.

Revisions

DIRECTV reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship program and to make changes at any time including termination of the program.

Which school should I list on the application if I have not made a final decision? You should list your first choice on the application.

How do I change my college choice?

You can update your final school choice on the 'My Profile' page at https://aim.applyists.net. If you are chosen to receive an award, it will be your responsibility to make sure your college is updated at least 30 days prior to the check issue date stated in the award notification so your check can be issued accordingly. This will not update forms that have already passed the deadline but all awards are issued based on the 'My Profile' page.

How do I know if my application is complete?

- Allow five to seven business days after uploading documents for your online status to update.
- You may monitor your status of each required form and attachment on your home page at aim.applyists.net.
 - Not Started the form has not been requested or started
 - Started the form has not been submitted
 - Submitted the form has been submitted
 - Not received the attachment has not been received
 - Processing the attachment has been received and is being processed and verified
 - Accepted the attachment has been verified and accepted by ISTS
 - Complete all required forms and attachments (if applicable) have been received and your application will be considered for the scholarship
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to monitor the progress of all application requirements to make sure the application is complete. The status 'Complete' will display on the 'Home' page when all forms have been submitted and all documents have been verified.

I uploaded a document that no longer displays on my application. Do I need to submit it again? Previously uploaded documents that are no longer displayed with a status on the 'Home' page have been rejected. The most common reasons for a rejected document are as follows:

- The document uploaded is not one of the accepted file types. (.pdf, .tif, .png, .gif, .jpeg, .jpg .bmp, .xps and .zip are acceptable file formats.)
- The .zip file uploaded did not contain acceptable file formats.
- The document uploaded was not the document requested.
- Not all pages of the document were contained in the file.
- We cannot open the file. The file may be corrupted or password protected.

Refer to the upload section of your application for the details of the required documents and upload a new file that meets the criteria stated.

How and when will I receive notification?

- All applicants will be notified of their status via **email** by the end of June 2015. For recipients, an 'Acceptance' link will be displayed on the 'Home' page following the notification.
- Add <u>contactus@applyists.com</u> to your email address book or safe senders list so important emails are not sent to your junk mail folder.
- <u>Do not opt out of any email sent from contactus@applyists.com.</u> You may not receive vital information regarding your scholarship applications.

Note: Your email address will <u>only</u> be used to communicate with you about your scholarship applications or other opportunities administered by ISTS for which you may be eligible to apply. We will not provide your email address to any third-parties.

Are scholarships taxable?

Tax laws vary by country. In the United States, scholarship funds used exclusively for the payment of tuition or textbooks are normally not taxable. The scholarship recipient is responsible for taxes, if any, that may be assessed against your scholarship award. We recommend consulting your tax advisor for more guidance. You may also consult IRS Publication 970 for further information (http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p970.pdf).

In some Latin American countries, the scholarship awards may count as taxable income for the DIRECTV employees whose children receive a scholarship. After the awards have been distributed, the employee will receive contact information for a DIRECTV-provided tax advisor in their area who can advise about the tax impact of their dependent's award.

Program Administration

To assure complete impartiality in selection of recipients and to maintain a high level of professionalism, the program is administered by International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc., a firm that specializes in managing sponsored scholarship programs.

Questions? Contact us:

Telephone: 855-670-ISTS (4787) Email: <u>contactus@applyists.com</u>