

An Overview of Golden Key Scholarships



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Outline



- Scholarship Incentives
 - Success at the UofA
- Eligibility
- Scholarship Categories
- The Application Procedure
- General Scholarship Advice



Scholarship Incentives

- Approximately \$1 000 000 (USD) in scholarships awarded each year
- Available to students of **any** discipline
- Not only academic-based
 - “Academics, Leadership, Service”
- Canadian scholarships
 - 21 chapters in Canada
- Most scholarships are \$1000+
 - Graduate students eligible for \$10 000 Graduate Scholar Award



Scholarship Incentives



- Monetary award
- Credentials that come with receiving an award from a society that is renowned for academic excellence
- Research world
 - Ability to secure funding



Success at the UofA



- Graduate Scholar Award (\$10 000)
 - Three graduate/professional student recipients at UofA since 2007
- First Place in Engineering & Technology Achievement Award at UofA (\$2000)
- Likely others



Eligibility

- Primary criterion
 - Membership in a Golden Key chapter
- Scholarship-specific criteria
 - Country
 - Discipline
 - Undergraduate/Graduate
- You **MUST** complete the application procedure by the deadline in order to be considered for **any** Golden Key scholarship



Scholarship Categories – International



- Scholarly Achievement
 - Undergraduate Achievement Award (\$5000)
 - Graduate Scholar Award (\$10 000)
 - Visual and Performing Arts Achievement Award
 - \$1000
- Service and Leadership
 - Community Service Award (\$2000)
 - Chapter Service Award (\$1000)



Scholarship Categories – International



- Financial Need
 - Education Debt Reduction Award (\$5000)
- Grants
 - Numerous grants available
 - Research-related
 - GK Conferences
 - Study Abroad
 - Professional Development



Scholarship Categories – Canadian



- **Scholarly Achievement**
 - Canadian Undergraduate Award (\$1000)
 - Canadian Post-Graduate Study Award (\$1500)
- **Service and Leadership**
 - Regional Student Leader of the Year: Canada (\$1000)
 - Canadian Community Service Award (\$1000)
 - Regional Advisor of the Year: Canada (\$1000)
- **Grants**
 - Canadian Study/Volunteer Abroad Award (\$1500)



The Application Procedure

- Become a member
- Navigate to the “SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS” Section of the GK website (<http://www.goldenkey.org>)
- Scholarships Listed by Country
 - By selecting “Canada”, all scholarships available to students at Canadian institutions will be listed
- Each scholarship description contains a link to the application submission website
 - All scholarships are submitted online
 - Application submission and adjudication is performed by International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc.



The Application Procedure

- Create an account
- The submission website navigates you through the application
 - Some information is typed and saved to your application via the website
 - Essays and transcripts are uploaded
 - Reference letters may be either typed and saved or uploaded as a PDF
- Information may be saved and edited over multiple visits
- You must verify and submit your application before the deadline



General Scholarship Advice



- “Academics, Leadership, Service”
- All GK members have been ranked in the top 15 % of their program at some point in time
 - A high GPA will distinguish you further, but is by no means necessary
- Community involvement
 - GK executive, fundraising committee, or volunteering for events
- Do not be shy when highlighting your achievements



General Scholarship Advice

- Grammatical errors give the impression that you do not consider your application worthy of attention to detail
- Follow application guidelines
 - If you are adapting other application forms, make all necessary changes in content and format
 - Do not use point-form when essay form is requested
- Be conscious of the audience when writing essays
 - For multi-disciplinary scholarships, the committee may have limited familiarity with your discipline
 - Write for the layperson and avoid jargon



General Scholarship Advice



- Be sure your essays are original
 - Avoid trendy or irrelevant topics
- Reference letters
 - Should be from a senior person who can give a detailed, positive account of your achievements
 - Should be recent



Conclusions

- Regardless of your strengths or academic discipline, there are scholarships available to you
- Deadlines occur throughout the year
- Be persistent and continually improve your applications

Questions?



<http://www.goldenkey.org>