

Spanish American Institute (SAI) Scholarship Process for UMC Latino Youth

Purpose: To provide financial assistance to deserving Latino students pursuing a 2-year or 4-year degree or attending a vocational program who are active members of a local CalPac United Methodist Church (UMC) in Southern California.

Calendar of Scholarship Process

The 2025 scholarship dates include the following:

Applications available	Feb 17, 2025
Deadline for submitting applications	April 25, 2025
Scholarship award recipients selected	May 9, 2025
Scholarship award recipients notified	May 23, 2025
Award presentation at CalPac Conference	June 2025

Eligibility Requirements

In order to apply for the UMC Latino Youth SAI Scholarship, applicants must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Be a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race
 2. Be an active member of a CalPac local UMC for a minimum of one year
 3. Submit at least one letter of recommendation from the Pastor or church leader
 4. Attending or will attend an accredited 2-year community college, 4 year college or university or vocational program in the next academic school year.
 5. Full-time enrollment (minimum 12 units per semester) in a regular degree program is required.
 6. A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 in high school and/or college is preferred.
 7. Complete the SAI application process
- Scholarship applicants do not need to be US citizens. Permanent residents or undocumented students will to be considered.
 - Graduate and PhD candidates are not eligible for SAI scholarships.
 - An individual may receive only one SAI scholarship.
 - Scholarship recipients give SAI permission to publish their name and photo for the purpose of promoting the SAI scholarship program.

Required Documents

Complete and submit the SAI application, write a 500-word essay, and submit two letters of recommendation (one must be from applicant's pastor or church leader). All these required documents must be emailed by deadline date.

The following documents must be available upon request:

- Copies of official high school and/or college transcripts
- A FAFSA report or Income Tax documents

Guidance on Documents Requested

Essay

Applicant must complete a 500-word essay on such topics as background, life obstacles, role models, interests, short and long term goals, need for award, and indicate how he/she identifies with the Latino culture.

Letters of Recommendation

At least one letter of recommendation must come from the Pastor or Church Leader. Other letters of recommendations can be from teachers, coaches, community members, employers, and even family members who will attest to the applicant's character, passion, drive, potential and accomplishments to date.

Transcripts

If the applicant is a high school student, applicant should have all available school transcripts starting with the ninth grade. If the high school student has taken college courses, then it is recommended that s/he obtain transcripts for the college work, also.

Financial information

If unable to file FAFSA application, please have income tax documents available to submit upon request.

Submitted Applications

A completed application and required documents must be received by the deadline date.

Notifying Applicants

An email will be sent to those who will receive a scholarship giving them the amount and informing them of the next steps to receive the scholarship. Recipients will have 12 months to provide proof of enrollment or the scholarship award will be withdrawn. The scholarship withdrawal date can be extended an additional 6 months for extenuating circumstances if a written request is received one month before the withdrawal date.

Sending the Checks

Once proof of college enrollment for the fall semester is received by SAI, a check will be sent to the school where the student is attending.

Database

A database of all recipients will be kept to include name, contact information (address, cell, home phone, email address), date scholarship received, school attended, and amount of scholarship, in order for SAI to follow up in the future.



**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR DO NOT RECEIVE A RESPONSE
WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER APPLYING, SEND AN EMAIL TO
INFO@SAISCHOLARS.ORG**

Spanish American Institute

United Methodist Church
Latino Youth
Scholarship Application

Date: _____

PLEASE READ SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS INFORMATION BEFORE FILLING IN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR DO NOT RECEIVE A RESPONSE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER APPLYING, SEND AN EMAIL TO INFO@SAISCHOLARS.ORG

Personal Information

NAME: _____ GENDER: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

PLACE OF BIRTH (include country): _____

CITIZENSHIP: U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident Undocumented

HISPANIC ETHNICITY TO WHICH YOU IDENTIFY:

Mexican Cuban Puerto Rican Central American South American

Other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race _____

CURRENT ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS (if different):

HOME PHONE NUMBER: _____ CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Education

High school attending or attended

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ DATE STARTED: _____

DATE GRADUATED: _____ ACCUMULATIVE GPA: _____

SAT SCORE: _____ SAT DATE: _____ ACT SCORE: _____ ACT DATE: _____

Colleges you are attending or have attended (if more than one, include others at end of application)

NAME OF INSTITUTION (College or Vocational): _____

CITY _____ STATE: _____ DATE STARTED: _____

CLASS YEAR: Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior ___ Senior ___

GRADUATION DATE: _____ ACCUMULATIVE GPA: _____ MAJOR: _____

DEGREE/CERTIFICATE: _____

List colleges you have applied to, in order of preference

Family Information

MOTHER'S NAME: _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____

MOTHER'S AGE (Enter zero if deceased): _____ FATHER'S AGE (Enter zero if deceased): _____

PARENTS MARTIAL STATUS: Married _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Separated _____

MOTHER'S OCCUPATION: _____ FATHER'S OCCUPATION: _____

PARENT'S COMBINED ADJUSTED YEARLY GROSS INCOME: _____

APPLICANT'S ADJUSTED YEARLY GROSS INCOME: _____

IS APPLICANT A DEPENDENT ON PARENT'S INCOME TAX FORM: YES: _____ NO: _____

DEPENDENT SIBLING'S NAME AND AGE:

NUMBER OF PERSONS LIVING IN APPLICANTS HOUSEHOLD (INCLUDE APPLICANT, PARENTS, DEPENDENT SIBLINGS, AND OTHER ADULTS AND CHILDREN): _____

HOW MANY DEPENDENT SIBLINGS ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN COLLEGE? _____

Expected Financial Contribution (EFC)

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FAMILY FINANCIAL INFORMATION IS TO DETERMINE THE FAMILY'S EXPECTED FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION (EFC) TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

WHAT IS THE APPLICANT'S FAMILY FAFSA EFC? _____

IF YOU CANNOT OBTAIN A FAFSA REPORT, THEN GO TO THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE TO DETERMINE YOUR FAMILY'S EFC:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/paying-your-share/expected-family-contribution-calculator>

WHAT IS THE APPLICANT'S FAMILY EFC FROM BIGFUTURE WEBSITE? _____

Community Service/Volunteer Activities/Employment

LIST SERVICE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED WITHIN THE LAST FOUR YEARS. ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS/ROLE/POSITION(S) HELD, DATES TO AND FROM HELD (MM/YY), AND HOURS PER WEEK. INCLUDE OTHER ACTIVITIES AT END OF APPLICATION, IF NECESSARY:

DO YOU PLAN TO WORK DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR? YES: ____ NO: ____

IF YES, WHERE AND HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK DO YOU PLAN TO WORK?

500 Word Essay

APPLICANT MUST ATTACH A 500 WORD, SELF-PROFILE ESSAY ON SUCH TOPICS AS BACKGROUND, LIFE OBSTACLES, ROLE MODELS, INTERESTS, SHORT AND LONG TERM GOALS, NEED FOR AWARD, AND INDICATE HOW YOU IDENTIFY WITH THE LATINO CULTURE.

Any Additional Information

Required Certification and Release

BY SUBMITTING THIS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TO SPANISH AMERICAN INSTITUTE, THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES AND AGREES TO THE FOLLOWING:

- I CERTIFY THAT ALL INFORMATION ON THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.
- I CERTIFY THAT I MEET ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AS SPECIFIED IN THIS APPLICATION AND THE ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS.
- I UNDERSTAND THAT APPLICATION MATERIALS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF SAI AND WILL NOT BE BE RETURNED.
- I UNDERSTAND THAT I MUST NOTIFY SAI OF ANY CHANGE IN MY ENROLLMENT STATUS OR CONTACT INFORMATION. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT A CHANGE IN MY ENROLLMENT STATUS MAY RESULT IN THE CANCELLATION OF ANY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.
- I GIVE SAI PERMISSION TO PUBLISH MY NAME AND PHOTOS OF MYSELF FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROMOTING THE UMC LATINO YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR DO NOT RECEIVE A RESPONSE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER APPLYING, SEND AN EMAIL TO INFO@SAISCHOLARS.ORG