

# DANIELS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## Information for Applicants

The Daniels Scholarship Program offers an exciting and challenging opportunity for graduating high school seniors who demonstrate exceptional character, leadership, and a commitment to serving their communities.

Students receiving the Daniels Scholarship can obtain a four-year college education at any accredited nonprofit college or university in the United States, complete with financial and personal support throughout the journey. The Daniels Scholarship Program provides resources, encouragement, and inspiration far beyond the financial assistance needed to earn a college degree. Our goal is to help Daniels Scholars succeed both in college and in life.

Every year, Daniels Scholars are selected from our four-state region of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. Daniels Scholars currently attend more than 200 colleges and universities in 45 states.

As of June 2016, the Daniels Scholarship Program has provided nearly \$138 million in undergraduate scholarships to nearly 3,500 students.

### Selection criteria

Daniels Scholars are selected because they embody the principles and values Bill Daniels defined as hallmarks of the program:

- Strength of character
- Leadership potential
- Willingness to give back to the community
- Academic performance or promise
- Well-rounded personality

### Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for the Daniels Scholarship Program, students must satisfy the following requirements at the time of application:

- Demonstrate financial need
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- Be a resident of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, or Wyoming
- Be a high school senior graduating from a school in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, or Wyoming
- ACT scores of at least 17 in each category (Math, English, Reading, Science) or SAT Math score of at least 400 and Critical Reading score of at least 440. Writing scores are not required. All test scores must come from a single test. Super scoring is not accepted.

### How to apply

It will take a significant amount of time to gather information and complete the application. Applicants and recommenders should not wait until the last minute to start and/or submit an application or recommendation. The application does not need to be completed in one session; it can be saved and resumed. However, the complete application with supporting documents and recommendation must be submitted before the deadline.

To get scores in time to apply, applicants must take the ACT on or before October 22, 2016 or the SAT on or before November 5, 2016.



**FAFSA & SAR** | The first step is to complete the 2017/2018 FAFSA at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov) (accessible starting October 1, 2016). When the FAFSA is submitted online and a valid email address is provided, the Student Aid Report (SAR) should be available in 3-5 days. The SAR indicates the student's Expected Family Contribution or "EFC".

**Eligibility Questionnaire** | The Daniels Fund's Eligibility Questionnaire will determine a student's financial and general eligibility, and whether the student can proceed to the application. This step requires information from the Student Aid Report (SAR) and additional financial information from the applicant and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

**Recommendation** | In addition to the application, students must obtain a recommendation from a representative at their high school (principal, teacher, guidance counselor, coach, etc.). Recommenders must be 21 or older and cannot be related to the applicant. Recommenders must complete a confidential recommendation via our online application system. Recommenders receive instructions and login credentials via email when the student designates them as the recommender on their application. An application without a recommendation will not be considered, so students must ensure their recommender meets the submission deadline.

**Submit Application** | Applications and recommendations must be completed online at [www.DanielsFund.org](http://www.DanielsFund.org) between September 30, 2016 and November 30, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. MST. Late, mailed, faxed, or emailed submissions will not be accepted.

Apply online September 30 – November 30 by 4:00 p.m. MST

## Important!

- Complete the FAFSA
- Take ACT or SAT early to get your score in time to apply

## How financial eligibility is determined

The Daniels Fund assesses financial eligibility by evaluating a number of factors such as the income and assets of the applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the income and assets of the applicant, and individual circumstances.

Students do not need to be Pell eligible to be financially eligible for the Daniels Scholarship Program.

Applicant financial eligibility is determined by the Financial Eligibility Questionnaire. Applicants who do not satisfy the eligibility requirements will not be permitted to proceed to the application. Applicants who do meet the eligibility requirements will be required to submit documents that are used to verify eligibility such as the FAFSA Student Aid Report, official ACT/SAT scores, citizenship and residency documentation, and other financial documents.

## Where the scholarship can be used

Daniels Scholars may attend any two or four-year, nonprofit, accredited college or university in the United States. Scholars must intend to complete a bachelor's degree. If a scholar starts at a two-year college, they must be on a path to earn a bachelor's degree. Daniels Scholarships may not be used at technical or trade schools, or for participation in certificate programs.

## What the scholarship covers

The Daniels Scholarship is a comprehensive college scholarship that pays toward the costs of tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and miscellaneous educational expenses. It is a supplemental or "last dollar" scholarship, and therefore secondary to all other grants and scholarships awarded to the scholar. After considering the student's other scholarships, financial aid (federal, state, and institutional), and any work-study they accept, as well as their federally-determined Expected Family Contribution (EFC), the Daniels Fund will pay toward the remaining costs of the scholar's education. The amount of the scholarship is unique to each Daniels Scholar, and can vary from year to year.

**Partner School Option** | Driven by our commitment to help students graduate free of education-related debt, the Daniels Fund has established partnerships with 24 of the most commonly selected colleges and universities in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. If a scholar attends one of these institutions, the Daniels Fund and the school will cover their EFC. Scholars may attend any nonprofit accredited school in the country, but there is a financial advantage to attending a partner school, as the EFC varies each year and can be significant. To see a list of all current partner schools, visit [DanielsFund.org/Scholarships/PartnerSchools.asp](http://DanielsFund.org/Scholarships/PartnerSchools.asp)

Daniels Scholarships are annually renewable up to a maximum of four academic years (8 semesters or 12 quarters) if all requirements of the Daniels Scholarship Program are met.

## The benefits of being a Daniels Scholar

The Daniels Scholarship Program is much more than a check for college. It is a comprehensive program that helps Daniels Scholars succeed in college and beyond. The rewards and benefits offered by the program are significant:

- Financial assistance toward a four-year undergraduate degree
- Campus communities with events, activities, and support exclusively for Daniels Scholars
- Dedicated help and support from Daniels Fund staff and designated on-campus contacts
- Assistance in planning for a career after college
- Alumni Program offering ongoing support and a lifelong connection to a network of Daniels Scholars
- Recognition as a Daniels Scholar
- A laptop computer

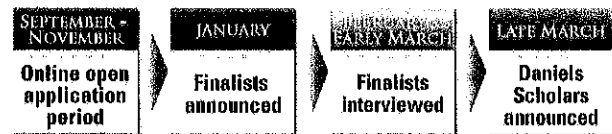
## Expectations and requirements

- Maintain academic requirements (including a minimum 2.0 GPA) while in college, and be on track to graduate with a bachelor's degree within four academic years
- Live on campus during freshman year
- While in college, work in a paid position during the academic year (5 hours/week first year and 10 hours/week every year after)
- While in college, participate in the Daniels Scholarship Enrichment Program, a series of online workshops led by local and national experts on topics including ethics, character, patriotism, civics, free enterprise, entrepreneurship, leadership, critical thinking, and etiquette
- Honor and live by the Daniels Scholar Code of Conduct
- Provide regular updates to Daniels Fund staff
- Complete all scholarship requirements and submit all renewal documents by their deadlines
- Attend our summer scholarship orientation conference in Denver

## Application process and selection timeline

The Daniels Scholarship Program is highly competitive. Each year, thousands of applicants go through a rigorous application process. Finalists advance to an in-person interview.

Applications and recommendations must be submitted online through the application website between September 30, 2016 and November 30, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. MST.



All applicants will be notified in January whether or not they have been selected as a finalist. Finalists will be invited to participate in a personal interview, conducted by local community leaders in the applicant's home state in February or early March. Daniels Scholars are announced in late March, and must attend our scholarship and college orientation conference in June (all expenses are paid by the Daniels Fund).