ECMC Scholars Program - FAQs

Are the ECMC scholarship funds sent to me or to my college?
✓ ECMC scholarship funds are always sent directly to the college on the student’s behalf.

Can I use the money for things other than tuition and fees?
✓ Yes! Once your direct costs (costs your school requires you to pay directly to the institution, such as tuition and fees) are paid to your school, if the scholarship results in an overage in your account, the school may issue you a refund for the overpayment to be used by you for other education-related expenses such as books, school supplies, transportation, housing and food. You will want to work with your financial aid office if you feel a refund is due to you to find out how and when you will receive the refund.

How long will it take for my school to receive the scholarship funds?
✓ Scholarship disbursement requests may take up to 30 days to process. You will receive a confirmation email once your request has been processed. From there, it takes approximately two to four weeks for the check to be mailed to your school and posted to your school student account. It is your responsibility to monitor your account to ensure the check arrives and is properly credited to your account.

How come I can’t get all $6,000 disbursed my freshman year?
✓ ECMC wants to ensure you continue your postsecondary education journey beyond your first year of school! Therefore, you are eligible to receive up to $4,000 your first year of school and you can use the remaining funds starting your second year of school (up to a total of $6,000).

When does the scholarship expire?
✓ ECMC scholarship funds are valid six years from high school graduation.

Where can I get a copy of my financial aid award letter required to process my scholarship disbursement request?
✓ The financial aid award letter is provided to you by your college based on your FAFSA results and details the financial aid made available to you such as scholarships, Pell Grant and/or other grants, work-study and federal student loans. It is most likely viewable in your online school student account. If not, you can contact your financial aid office to obtain it. You can view a sample financial aid award letter on page 3.

Where can I get a copy of my class schedule required to process my scholarship disbursement request?
✓ The class schedule is most likely in your online school student account. If not, you can contact your registrar’s office to obtain it. An unofficial transcript will also be accepted as proof of enrollment. You can view a sample class schedule on page 4.
Will the money be split between terms or applied to just one term?
✓ A scholarship award letter will accompany the scholarship check and it will instruct the school to apply the scholarship funds to only one term - the term in which you requested the funds be applied to when filling out the online scholarship disbursement request form.

Will scholarship funds automatically be sent to my school next term or do I need to submit another scholarship disbursement request form?
✓ You must complete an online scholarship disbursement request form for each term in which you would like funds applied to.

Do I have to claim my scholarship funds my freshman year even if I don’t need them due to other free financial aid?
✓ Nope! One of the program requirements is that you must enroll in postsecondary education within six months of high school graduation. If you are not using your funds immediately, you are required to email studentsuccess@ecmc.org and let them know why you are not using your scholarship funds. Keep in mind that the funds are good for six years from high school graduation. I encourage you to only request funds when needed and request only the amount you need.

Does ECMC have other scholarships I can apply for?
✓ ECMC does not offer additional scholarships. However, you can find additional scholarship opportunities using ECMC Scholars Program resources such as Kaleidoscope (https://app.mykaleidoscope.com/login). In addition, here are four of the major legitimate scholarship search sites to help you search for other scholarship opportunities.
  • Fastweb: www.fastweb.com
  • College Board: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
  • U.S. Department of Labor: www.careerinonet.org/scholarshipsearch
  • Golden Door Scholars: www.goldendoorscholars.org

Lastly, I encourage you to contact your college’s financial aid office for additional scholarship and grant opportunities that may be available through your school.
Scholars Scholarship Disbursement: Class Schedule Required Information

Sample School

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

- **NAME:** Jane A. Sample
- **YEAR:** Sophomore
- **TERM:** Fall 2016
- **MAJOR(S):** English, Spanish
- **ADVISOR:** Prof. S. Smith
- **STATUS:** Registered

**CREDIT HOURS TO DATE:** 32
**SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS:** 14
**REMAINING CREDIT HOURS:** 68

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Sample provided by ECMC