

Webster UNIVERSITY

Vienna
Private University

Scholarship Application Frequently Asked Questions 2016/2017

Please read through this list of FAQ thoroughly. If you do not see your question on this list, please contact Scholarship Coordinator Katherine Price Beuchert with your questions. She may be reached Mo-Thu at scholarship@webster.ac.at

How does an applicant apply for scholarships?

We recommend that you submit your Scholarship Application (www.webster.ac.at/scholarships) **at the same time** as your application for admission. Submit all documentation before the final deadline of June 15th, 2016.

Your scholarship request will not affect your consideration for admission in any way.

Please also note that Webster Vienna Private University provides scholarships based on both the academic merit and the financial need of the applicant. In order to be considered for all of the scholarships available to incoming students, applicants must complete a Scholarship Application by the filing deadline. Applicants will be considered for all awards for which they are eligible.

How may I submit my Scholarship Application?

You may email your complete application, including your 1000-1200 word essay and scans of your supporting documents to the attention of Katherine Price Beuchert at scholarship@webster.ac.at

Documents may only be submitted in .pdf or .docx format. We cannot accept zip or .rar formats. Please note that originals, especially official confirmations from parents' employer stating **total net income** in Euro for 2015 and total net in Euro for a current 1 month period (ex. March, 2016), **must be submitted in original via mail.**

How does Webster Vienna determine scholarship awards?

Webster Vienna first determines the award of scholarships based on academic merit as evidenced by the applicants' high school grades (or for graduate students, their undergraduate grades), English language proficiency test scores, and writing skills as demonstrated in their Admissions essay and the Scholarship Application Essay. Financial need is determined by the evidence on the Scholarship Application and associated documents. The funds available to support academic merit and address financial need are limited.

What are the eligibility criteria for scholarships?

Webster Vienna is proud to have both sponsored scholarships and Webster Vienna Scholarships. All scholarships on offer take academic merit and financial need into consideration. As there may be a different grade point average (GPA) or nationality requirement, please see the scholarship page to learn more. Additionally, our sponsored scholarships are not open to transfer applicants. Lastly, scholarship applicants will be considered for all awards **for which they are eligible.**

What are the English requirements for scholarship applicants?

Scholarship applicants must have exceptional written and spoken English as evidenced by their performance on one of Webster Vienna's accepted English proficiency exams (TOEFL, IELTS, and Cambridge Advanced Exam). To learn more about admissions English requirements, please visit webster.ac.at/undergraduate-admissions/testing.

What is the difference between "undergraduate," "graduate," and "transfer" applicants?

Undergraduate programs follow high school and at Webster Vienna, lead to a bachelor degree. Graduate programs follow a bachelor's degree and at Webster Vienna lead to a master's degree. All of our degree programs are accredited in Austria and in the U.S.

Transfer students include any applicant who has finished high school, and who has completed any amount of university-level coursework for a grade. Even if you have only completed one semester at another university, you are considered a transfer applicant and you must submit your complete transcripts from any university attended. Some scholarships, for example the City of Vienna Division of Cultural Affairs Award, are not open to transfer applicants.

What is a Grade Point Average (GPA)?

A GPA is a calculated average of the grades you earn in school following the American 0 to 4.0 scale. Webster uses this calculation to measure your overall performance in school. In the United States, grades are usually assigned in letters and are based on a 4.0 GPA scale:

A 4.0 (excellent)

B 3.0 (good)

C 2.0 (satisfactory)

D 1.0 (needs improvement)

F 0.0 (fail)

At U.S. universities, students receive a GPA each semester based on the grades earned in all classes that semester. In addition to a semester GPA, students also maintain a cumulative GPA, which is an ongoing average of all semester grades from the beginning of a student's studies.

Webster Vienna has over 70 different nationalities, and we are familiar with many different grading systems. We will determine your GPA using the American 4-point scale.

Do scholarships require the student to maintain a certain grade point average (GPA)?

Yes. Webster Vienna's scholarship coordinator reviews the academic performance of all scholarship recipients after each semester. Students who maintain the GPA required of their scholarship (usually a 3.0 or a 3.5, depending on the award) will continue to receive their scholarship. Students whose GPA falls below the level specified for their scholarship will receive a one-time warning, and will be given one semester to raise their grades. Awardees will receive more information in their scholarship package.

Why do you ask for a 1000 – 1200 word essay?

Firstly, we ask for an essay on one of the two given prompts/topics so that we might learn more about the applicant as a person. A second goal is to learn how well the applicant writes, and how well they are able to communicate their ideas. We would ask that applicants consider following the format of a "five-paragraph essay," which has five paragraphs of 200-250 words each (for a total of 1000-1200 words), and includes an introductory paragraph, three body paragraphs with support and development, and a concluding paragraph.

What can an applicant do to improve their chances for receiving a scholarship?

Firstly, the applicant should complete the Scholarship Application with all required information so that the Selection Committee can perform a complete evaluation of financial need and academic merit. Secondly, applicants should have strong performance on Webster Vienna's accepted English proficiency exams

(TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge Advanced Exam) and exceptional grades at the high school level (for undergraduate applicants) or undergraduate level (for graduate applicants).

If a student loses his or her scholarship because of poor academic performance, can he or she get it back at a later point in their studies?

Once a scholarship is lost, the scholarship is awarded to another student. The scholarship cannot be recovered by the student.

If a student does not receive a scholarship as a first year (undergraduate) student, are there scholarships for academic merit that can be received after the first year?

There are several competitive scholarships for second year students that are merit-based, sponsored scholarships. Please see the webster.ac.at/scholarships#Merit_Awards for more information on what sponsored scholarships are available for currently enrolled students. Additionally, each year Austrian undergraduate and graduate students with at least 24 credits (undergraduate) or 12 credits (graduate) and a minimum of a 3.3 GPA may apply for a one-time award from the Austrian Ministry of Education.

Current students may also consider applying for a work study scholarship to defray part of the cost of tuition. To find out more, please visit webster.ac.at/scholarships#Work_study

Are U.S. citizens eligible for U.S. student loan programs such as FAFSA?

American citizens and green card holders may be eligible to apply for various forms of financial assistance from the U.S. Government (Student loans, Pell Grants, etc.). Most financial aid programs associated with American colleges and universities are restricted by U.S. law to citizens of the United States. Others are restricted for use only in the United States.

Applications for students who are applying for U.S. Federal Aid at Webster Vienna are coordinated through our Senior Finance & Financial Aid Officer, Ms. Carina Starlinger-Mazelle.

In order to qualify for U.S. Federal Aid at Webster University, students must first be accepted for admission to Webster University. Accepted students can then obtain information and guidance from Ms. Starlinger-Mazelle.

May scholarship recipients study abroad?

Yes, we even encourage this, as Webster Vienna is part of an international Webster campus network with campuses in the U.S., Europe, Asia, and Africa. Scholarship recipients may study abroad for a maximum of two terms/one semester, but you must speak to your advisor to ensure the required number of courses is

completed at Webster Vienna's campus in order to receive Austrian accreditation of your degree.

The final scholarship deadline is June 15th. I'm taking the TOEFL on June 16th. Will you accept my late results?

No, as the final deadline is June 15th. It takes approximately two weeks to receive official English proficiency results from the TOEFL or IELTS. Please ensure you submit your results by the final deadline in order to be considered.