

SAEP SCHOLARSHIP

Frequently Asked Questions

Activating the Scholarship

» How do I activate my scholarship?

Have at least a 70 GPA upon high school graduation and enroll in a partner institution for the Fall or Spring semester immediately following your high school graduation year. (example: If you graduate in June 2023, immediate enrollment would be Fall 2023 or Spring 2024).

Enrollment must be finalized before the census date, which occurs 12 to 14 days after the semester begins. This date marks when the institution recognizes your official enrollment.

- **Alamo Colleges:** Northeast Lakeview College, Northwest Vista College, Palo Alto College, San Antonio College, St. Philip's College
- **Public Universities:** Texas A&M University – San Antonio, University of Texas at San Antonio, UT Health Science Center San Antonio
- **Private Universities:** Our Lady of the Lake University, St. Mary's University, Trinity University, University of the Incarnate Word

• **HS Classes of 2022, 2021, and 2020:** You must begin and complete the semester as a full-time student (enrolled in 12 or more credit hours) to remain scholarship eligible.

• **HS Class of 2023:** You must start and end the semester at the same enrollment status (full-time, three-quarter time, and part-time) to remain scholarship eligible.

• **HS Class of 2024:** You must start and end the semester at the same enrollment status (full-time or three-quarter time) and complete 1 Scholar Success Activity (SSA) each semester to remain scholarship eligible.

» What happens next?

During the summer, your High School-based College Access and Success Advisor will review all submitted documents to ensure your application is complete. They will reach out to you via phone, text, or email if any information is missing.

Note: Before submitting documentation, please double-check that your phone number, email address, and all application information is accurate! You will receive a confirmation email once submitted.

» How will I receive updates about my scholarship once I am enrolled in college?

Your college will notify you about your financial aid award status, including the SAEP scholarship, through your student email and student portal.

» How will I receive my funds?

The SAEP Scholarship is sent directly to your institution and applied to your student invoice. If your invoice is less than the awarded amount, you will receive a refund for the difference (through the institution's preferred method for refunds). Most schools typically release scholarship funds at the end of the semester. Please continuously check your student portal or contact your school's Financial Aid office with any questions.

» When will I receive my funds?

The distribution of your scholarship award is determined by your institution. Please check with your Financial Aid office to confirm that you are recognized as an SAEP Scholarship recipient.

» If I start in the Fall at a non-partner college but then transfer to a partner institution in the Spring, can I receive the Scholarship?

Yes, you can activate your scholarship at a partner institution in either the Fall or Spring semester immediately following your high school graduation. This means that if you attend a non-partner institution in the Fall but transfer to a partner institution in the Spring, you can still receive the SAEP Scholarship.

Note: You will forfeit your scholarship eligibility if you transfer from a non-partner institution to a partner institution after the full academic year.

» Can I take a gap year?

No, to maintain your scholarship eligibility, you must enroll in the Fall or Spring semester immediately after your high school graduation. Additionally, you need to remain enrolled in consecutive semesters at your required enrollment hours and requirements (see list under "How do I activate my scholarship") to keep your scholarship status.

» Will I become ineligible for the scholarship if I study abroad?

No, you will remain eligible for the SAEP Scholarship while studying abroad as long as you remain enrolled at a partner institution with the required enrollment hours and requirements (see list under "How do I activate my scholarship"). Studying abroad will not affect your future scholarship eligibility.

» I am enrolled in classes at two partner institutions during the same semester (consortium status). Will I receive two scholarship payments?

No, the award will be granted to the institution where the most credit hours are taken. If credit hours are evenly divided between schools, the award will be allocated to

the more costly institution. You must notify SAEP of your consortium status.

Maintaining the Scholarship

» Do I need to reapply for the SAEP Scholarship?

No, the SAEP Scholarship will continue to renew as long as you maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), stay enrolled at your stated enrollment hours and requirements, and are enrolled at one of our partner institutions in consecutive Fall and Spring semesters (see list under “How do I activate my scholarship”).

» What is SAP?

At most partner institutions, Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) typically requires maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.0 and passing at least 67% of the classes you take. SAEP will verify SAP with your institution at the end of each Spring semester. Failing to maintain SAP will disqualify you from all future awards, and appeals are not permitted for falling below SAP.

» How long will I receive the scholarship?

If all eligibility requirements are met, you will continue receiving the SAEP scholarship for 8 semester payments or 5 years of your high school graduation date (whichever occurs first). It is also restricted to students pursuing their first bachelor’s degree; second bachelor’s degrees and graduate degrees are not eligible for coverage.

» What if I need to drop a class? Will I lose my scholarship?

Failure to maintain your enrollment status and requirements (see list under “How do I activate my scholarship”) will result in a decline for the award the following semester.

» I have questions about my scholarship, but I’m too busy to contact you. Can my parents reach out instead?

FERPA laws prevent SAEP from sharing personal information with anyone other than the student. While SAEP can provide general information, you (the student) should reach out directly for details regarding your specific award and eligibility.

» Can I take a semester off? Will I lose my scholarship?

If you are not enrolled in consecutive Fall and Spring semesters, you will lose eligibility for the SAEP Scholarship. However, if this is due to extenuating circumstances, you can submit an appeal for reinstatement. For more information, please refer to the “Submitting an Appeal” section on page 3.

» Can I use my scholarship during the summer?

No, the SAEP Scholarship is provided for Fall and Spring semesters only.

» What if I failed my first year? Will I lose my scholarship?

If you failed your first year and fall below SAP standards, you will lose eligibility for the scholarship. However, you may submit an appeal if your situation is due to extenuating circumstances. For more information, please refer to the “Submitting an Appeal” section on page 3.

» I recently changed my name, email address, phone number, etc. Do I need to inform SAEP?

Yes, please email scholarships@saedpartnership.org to update your personal information to avoid delays in processing and awarding your scholarship awards.

» My EFC/SAI changed. Can I still receive the scholarship? Once you are eligible for the scholarship, you maintain eligibility if you continue to meet the eligibility requirements. We do not review your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) or Student Aid Index (SAI) when renewing the scholarship.

Transferring the Scholarship

» Can I transfer my scholarship?

The SAEP Scholarship is transferable between our partner institutions, and the scholarship amount will adjust based on the funding offered at the new institution. For example, the scholarship will increase if you transfer from San Antonio College to St. Mary’s University, but it will decrease if you transfer from Texas A&M-San Antonio to Northwest Vista College.

» Can I receive my scholarship if I transfer to a non-partner?

No, transferring to a non-partner institution will result in the forfeiture of the remaining scholarship awards.

» Can I still receive the scholarship if I transfer from a 4-year university to a 2-year college?

Yes, if you transfer to one of our partner institutions and continue to meet eligibility requirements.

» Do I need to tell SAEP if I transfer to another institution?

Yes, it is important to update your student ID number in our database to prevent confusion and delays in processing at your new institution. Please email scholarships@saedpartnership.org to update your information. Additionally, inform your new school's Financial Aid Office that you are an SAEP Scholarship recipient so they can note your account accordingly.

Submitting an Appeal

Students who lose SAEP Scholarship eligibility may be able to appeal for reinstatement under special circumstances, including but not limited to:

- Illness
- Pregnancy or birth of a child
- Major medical emergency
- Mental health crisis
- Death in family
- Homelessness

If you wish to submit an appeal, please email: scholarships@saedpartnership.org to receive a link to submit your appeal application.

Additional documentation may be requested to be considered.

Deadlines for submission are January 15 for previous Fall semester and June 15 for previous Spring semester.

Note: Students are only allotted two appeals during the 8 semester or 5 years scholarship eligibility period. Appeals are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed.

Questions?

For questions regarding your application status, scholarship questions and appeals, please mail: scholarships@saedpartnership.org

*In your email, **please include your full first and last name, high school, year of graduation and a phone number.**