STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

Four basic types of available aid: scholarships, grants, loans and employment. They are derived from federal, state, and institutionally funded programs. When students apply for federal student aid, the information reported is used in a formula that calculates the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), an amount the student and his/her family are expected to contribute toward the student’s education.

Students may apply by completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or renewal FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. In addition to this requirement, each applicant must complete an ASU Financial Aid Application: This application is available at www.alcorn.edu under the Financial Aid/Forms link. **Priority Deadline: March 15th.**

Federal Student Aid Includes:

- Grants – financial aid that doesn’t have to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund)
- Loans – borrowed money for college; you must repay your loans, with interest
- Work-Study – a work program through which you earn money that can help with expenses
- Additional Information concerning Federal Student Aid can be located at https://studentaid.ed.gov/

**State Financial Aid:**

- Even if you're not eligible for federal aid, you might be eligible for financial aid from your state. Contact your state grant agency for more information.
- Mississippi residents: http://riseupms.com/state-aid/.

Institution Aid:

- Alcorn offers many general and special scholarships to qualified students. Scholarships are offered based on academic merits (contact admissions) and competitive selection for music, band, athletics, etc…
- Visit Alcorn’s website (www.alcorn.edu) for additional scholarship information or ask the department that offers your course of study; they might have a scholarship in your major.
- Fill out any applications required and meet the deadlines.

ASU FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED SCHOLARSHIPS

**PHASE I APPLICATION PERIOD**
**MARCH - MAY**

**PHASE II APPLICATION PERIOD**
**AUGUST - SEPTEMBER**

Admitted undergraduate students have the opportunity to apply for merit-based scholarships offered through the Alcorn State University Foundation, Inc. The Foundation administers both endowed scholarships and expendable scholarships, or those that must be replenished with funds from the donating individual or entity. The majority of scholarships available are in the form of endowed scholarships or those that are invested and funds awarded based on available interest. Alumni, former University faculty and staff or family and friends in memory of beloved Alcornites who value the opportunities of an Alcorn education mostly establish endowed scholarships. Most scholarships offered by the Foundation **Require a Minimum 2.0 GPA or Above.**

Students are able to apply during the two (2) application periods - PHASE I Late Spring (mid-March through mid-May) and PHASE II Early Fall (late August). After applications are received, they are evaluated and decisions made by the University's foundation scholarship committee and staff.
If selected, **PHASE I Scholarship Recipients are notified in writing by July 15** and requested to either submit their own typed and signed Thank You Letter to the Foundation and/or schedule an appointment for a "Thank You Letter Writing Session" with the ASU Writing Center in the J.D. Boyd Library at their earliest opportunity.

**PHASE II Walk-In Scholarship Recipients are notified in writing or via telephone by September 11.** All Thank You Letters must be submitted to the ASU Foundation by mid-October. Final Thank You Letters are usually forwarded to the donor to notify them of the recipients’ appreciation. If the final Thank You Letter is received in time, the scholarship monies will be posted to the students ASU account during registration.

ASU Foundation scholarship recipients, not only receive financial assistance to defray the cost of an education but they also become one of Alcorn's ambassadors of excellence.

**AWARDS**

Actual amounts available to be awarded depend on investment portfolio performance. The majority of scholarship awards is a maximum $1,000 and is awarded for one (1) academic year for both fall and spring semesters. One half of the total award is paid in the fall and the remaining half in the spring. A select number of scholarships are awarded for the summer sessions. There are a few recurring scholarships that are renewable from year-to-year based on students maintaining adherence to certain criteria, however the majority of scholarships are non-recurring.

To apply, click the link below to learn about scholarships available through the ASU Foundation.  