

Commonwealth Good Citizen Scholarship Essay Requirement

Please type a brief essay (**no more than 2 pages**) describing your college experience and focusing upon the answers to the following:

- What are your career/academic goals upon graduation?
- What volunteer/extracurricular activities do you participate in, either on or off campus?
- How do your community service activities relate to your major and what leadership roles have you taken on?
- How will you remain involved in your community upon graduation?

Please limit your essay to two (2) double-spaced pages. You must use 1-inch margins (left, right, top & bottom) in your document. Use a font that is easily readable and a font size of 11 or larger. **Failure to follow these guidelines could mean that you will not be considered for the Commonwealth Good Citizen Scholarship.**

In addition to your application and required essay, you are encouraged to submit a copy of your academic transcript, a letter of recommendation, and any other materials that you feel will be helpful to the scholarship selection committee in making their decision.

Your completed application, essay, signed certification page, and any supporting materials must be returned to your Financial Aid office no later than May 20, 2026.

Completed applications must be submitted to AICUP by the Financial Aid Office. Applications submitted directly to AICUP will NOT be considered!

STUDENT APPLICANT: Certification and Authorization

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application and in my scholarship essay is complete and accurate. I authorize the release of information from my college or university to the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) to confirm the information contained in this application.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Please sign full name)

___ By initialing here, I also permit AICUP to use my name and institution and a quote from my essay in a news release and other promotional material should I be selected as a recipient of the 2026-2027 Commonwealth Good Citizen Scholarship.

The information below MUST be completed by the financial aid office at your college or university.

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE: Confirmation

By my signature below, I confirm that my institution is nominating the above student for consideration of receiving the 2026-2027 Commonwealth Good Citizen Scholarship awarded through the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania.

Name of Financial Aid Officer: _____

Title of Financial Aid Officer: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Please sign full name)

**Completed applications should be returned to the Office of Financial Aid at
finaid@kings.edu**

no later than Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Award Notification:

Each student chosen to receive a scholarship will be notified by AICUP by email in early August 2026. AICUP will mail a check to the financial aid office at each recipient's school in mid-August 2026 with instructions to apply the award to the student's account. Scholarship recipients will be advised to notify their school's financial aid office if the money is not applied to their account in a reasonable amount of time.

COMMONWEALTH GOOD CITIZEN SCHOLARSHIP – FAQs

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are a freshman?

A. Yes, the student can be a freshman, including incoming freshman in fall 2026 as well.

Q. Can a student receive the scholarship if they are enrolled for only one semester of the 2026-2027 academic year (e.g., they are studying abroad or have completed degree requirements and are graduating early)?

A. Yes, a student is eligible for the scholarship as long as they will be an enrolled full-time student for at least one semester.

Q. Can the scholarship award be held by my institution while a student is studying abroad for the fall semester and returning to campus for the spring?

A. Yes, as long as the student remains registered as a full-time student at your institution and will attend on-campus for at least one semester.

Q. Can a previous recipient of the Good Citizen Scholarship apply again?

A. No, previous recipients of the Good Citizen Scholarship are not eligible to reapply for the scholarship. However, previous applicants for the Good Citizen Scholarship, who were not selected for an award, may reapply.