

Ellucian Foundation PATH Scholarship Program

2025-26 Application Guide for Higher Education Institutions in Antigua, Australia, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ireland, Lebanon, Jamaica, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Kingdom.

Thank you for your interest in applying for funding from the Ellucian Foundation's **2025-26 Progress * Accomplishment * Thriving * Hope (PATH) Scholarship Program**. In this sixth year of the program, the Ellucian Foundation is inviting applications from Associate's and Bachelor's degree-granting, not-for-profit institutions in selected countries for funds that will allow them to assist students who have experienced economic hardships that could negatively impact their ability to remain enrolled. The selected countries are Antigua, Australia, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ireland, Lebanon, Jamaica, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Kingdom.

The Ellucian Foundation will award block grants of \$10,000, \$15,000, and \$25,000 (USD) to selected institutions, which will use the funds to provide awards of up to \$1,500 (USD) to eligible students. Institutions will have considerable flexibility in determining the selection criteria and individual award amounts that best fit their affected students' needs.

This guide will assist you in completing and submitting the application, available at stayonpath.org. It will also offer suggestions that we hope will help you to become a successful applicant.

Application Timeline

Applications for 2025-26 PATH Scholarship funding are due to the Ellucian Foundation by June 20, 2025 at 11:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Institutions will be notified of the results of their application on or about August 22, 2025. Decisions of the committee will be final.

Selected institutions will receive their funds on or about November 28, 2025, and will be required to disburse those funds no later than February 27, 2026. Institutions will then be required to submit awarding and disbursement details to the Ellucian Foundation by April 24, 2026.

Key dates for the 2025-26 PATH Scholarship are listed below:

April 7, 2025	PATH Scholarship application opens
June 20, 2025	Application deadline
July 21 to August 15, 2025	Committee review of applications
On or about August 22, 2025	Institutions notified of committee decisions
September 1 – November 14, 2025	Awardees evaluated for grant eligibility through the Charities Aid Foundation America (CAFA)
November 28, 2025	Institutions receive PATH Scholarship funds from the Ellucian Foundation to distribute to students
February 27, 2026	PATH Scholarships distributed in full by recipient institutions
April 24, 2026	Institutions complete reporting requirements

Application Overview

Institutional Eligibility

Institutions must meet the following criteria to apply:

- Be an Associate's or Bachelor's degree-granting, not-for-profit institution. (System offices that oversee multiple institutions may apply, but each school will be evaluated individually.)
- Be approved by their Ministry of Higher Education or other national government ministry.

Institutions must also agree to established terms and conditions, which include:

- Affirming that PATH Scholarship funding will not replace or supplant other grant assistance.
- Committing to the timeframe of awarding funds and reporting data.
- Affirming that it will award only eligible students.
- Affirming that it is authorized to accept and disburse funds from a U.S.-based nonprofit foundation subject to eligibility validation through the Charities Aid Foundation America (CAFA).

Institutions will be asked for demographic information about the institution, and basic questions about their population experiencing financial hardships. In addition to demographic information and required affirmations, institutions will be asked to provide information concerning the:

- Top three current needs of their student population. Anticipated effects of the funding on recipients;
- Philosophy and approach for how the institution will select students (including any additional criteria imposed);
- How the proposal assists students experiencing economic hardships, ensuring that they are able to continue their education;
- Plans for promoting the program;
- Proposed selection process;
- Plans for how the funds will be disbursed;
- Proposed individual award amounts;
- Percentage of enrolled students who meet the established eligibility criteria;
- Compliance with reporting requirements, including the need to collect permission from recipients to share personally identifiable information with the Ellucian Foundation, if applicable;
- Current student retention and/or persistence initiatives and how the PATH Scholarship funds would assist with those efforts; and
- Efforts made by the institution, if any, to provide new, expanded, and/or modified programs designed to serve the evolving needs of the community and respond to students' financial challenges.

Student Eligibility

In addition to having been adversely affected by financial challenges, students must meet the following minimum criteria to be eligible to receive funds:

- Be a regular student, defined as:
 - Seeking an Associate's or Bachelor's degree
 - Not dual-enrolled in high school and postsecondary education.
- Currently enrolled at least half-time at the institution.
- In good academic standing at time of awarding and disbursement;
- Either a resident or non-resident student

Fund Disbursement

The PATH Scholarship program is designed to help institutions meet the immediate needs of their students who are experiencing financial challenges, so that those students can continue

to attend. For that reason, the funds must be fully disbursed by February 27, 2026. Institutions may choose the disbursement methods that best meet their students' needs.

Institutions may determine that some recipients' needs might require more than the \$1,500 (USD) maximum award. In those rare cases, institutions may request exceptions to the maximum award. To request an exception, email blueicon@nasfaa.org or the Ellucian Foundation Team at PATHScholarship@Ellucian.com with a brief narrative explaining the reason for the exception. Requests for exceptions will be evaluated on the basis of 1) being reasonable and 2) not diminishing the impact of the PATH Scholarship funding for other recipients or the institution.

Fund Reporting

The Ellucian Foundation uses data to evaluate the success of the program, and to plan improvements for subsequent years. To that end, institutions will be required to report the following information about each awarded student:

- Student's name
- Student's program of study
- Citizenship information
 - Citizen of your country
 - Non-citizen/international student
- Student's anticipated graduation/completion date
- Award amount
- A brief explanation of the student's need (no more than 100 words per student)
- Schools may categorize student recipients and provide a description of each category.
- Copies of student statements (which are encouraged, and which can be anonymous) that describe the importance of receiving the funds in allowing their continued enrollment or completion of their academic program.

This information is due to the Ellucian Foundation by April 24, 2026.

Application Tips

We hope that the following will help you complete and submit a successful application:

- Follow instructions closely to ensure that your application is complete and submitted by the established deadline.
- Consider all of the ways that students may have experienced financial challenges that placed their continued enrollment in jeopardy, and how those students can best demonstrate that impact to you.

- Make a compelling case for how you will use the funds to ensure that your recipients will have the best chance of completing their educations.
- Consider how PATH Scholarship funding will complement other available funding to provide optimal assistance to your students.
- Contact NASFAA's Blue Icon Advisors at blueicon@nasfaa.org or the Ellucian Foundation Team at PATHScholarship@Ellucian.com if you have questions about the application or process.