
Panther Scholarship Portal
Frequently Asked Questions

Who can use the system?

- Currently enrolled UWM associate, undergraduate, and graduate students.
- Admitted associate and undergraduate students, including new freshmen, transfer, and re-entry students
- Admitted graduate students.

How do I get started?

- Click the “Sign in With Your PAWS Credentials” button to log in with your UWM ePantherID and password.
- Complete the General Application and any other supplemental applications requested by the system. You may save your work and come back to it later if you wish.

Do I need to complete every section in the General Application?

- Sections that are required are indicated and must be completed to submit your General Application.
- The UWM scholarship process is very competitive. It is in your best interest to submit a complete application to provide reviewers with as much information about yourself to be considered for scholarships.

What are the general scholarship timelines?

- For newly admitted students, many scholarships offered by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Schools/Colleges require that students be admitted to UWM by a certain time to be considered.
 - New Freshmen: December 1 priority deadline
 - New Transfers: December 1 priority deadline
- For continuing undergraduate students, your School/College will notify you of any deadline specific to their scholarship process. Students are encouraged to complete the General Application by December 1 each year to ensure consideration.
- Deadlines for graduate students will vary by School/College.

What happens after I complete the application(s)?

- Once you complete your General Application and any subsequent School/College/Department Applications, you will see a list of scholarship opportunities that you may apply to. Click the “Apply” button after reading the details and determine if you fit the criteria and would like to apply.
- Auto-Match Scholarships: Once you complete your General Application, you will be automatically matched with scholarships for which you may qualify – *no further action is required*. You will not be able to see your auto-matched scholarships; however, your profile information will be forwarded to the scholarship committee(s) overseeing each scholarship to which you match. It is important to understand that due to the competitive nature of most scholarships, matching does not guarantee you will receive a scholarship.

How do I know when my application process is complete?

- After submitting any application, you will receive an automated confirmation email.
- You will also see that each of the applications on your dashboard shows a status of “Submitted.” You can log out of the system knowing your information will be reviewed and forwarded to the proper search committee.
- You should log in on a regular basis to check for new opportunities you qualify for that may have become available since you last accessed the Portal.

When will I receive notice about scholarships I have applied to or have been awarded?

- Newly admitted students who have not yet been issued a UWM email address will have a notification sent to the email provided on their UWM Application. Current UWM student who have applied to a scholarship will be notified of their application status via their UWM email address.

- Timelines vary from scholarship to scholarship. Generally, once the application submission deadline has passed, reviewers will begin evaluating applications. Once that has been completed, recipients will be selected, and communication will be sent to them via email. If the recipient is provided a deadline by which they must accept the scholarship, they must do so by the date specified to avoid losing the offer.

What do I have to do if I've been offered a scholarship?

- You will receive an email from the Panther Scholarship Portal indicating that you have been selected. The email will provide a link to log in to the Portal to view the offer details. In the Portal, you will then be able to accept or decline the offer. For most scholarships, after accepting, you will need to complete several supplemental "post-acceptance" questions, which might include a thank you to your donor. Your offer will not be scholarship will not be officially awarded until this portion has been completed, and it must be done before the deadline indicated. You will receive an email notification when your scholarship has been officially awarded and approved for disbursement.

Do I have to apply every year?

- The scholarship season runs from October through May. Your current General Application will be archived in September. The system will reopen for the next scholarship season in October. Watch your email UWM email inbox for reminders to complete your new General Application at the appropriate time.

What type of questions are on the General Application?

- Your academic record and demographic information are automatically pulled from PAWS into the Panther Scholarship Portal.
- You are asked for information regarding community service, co-curricular activities, work experience, and achievements and honors.
- Essay questions include why you chose UWM, your goals, challenges you have overcome, influence of character, and why you are seeking financial assistance.
- International and undocumented/DACA students are able to download a Non-FAFSA worksheet and can upload their completed form to the General Application in order to apply for need-based scholarships.

Who can I contact with questions?

- You may contact the [Office of Student Scholarships](#) with general questions about the application and using the Panther Scholarship Portal.
- If you have questions about your academic or personal information being pulled into the Panther Scholarship Portal, [contact the Registrar's Office](#).

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