

Donald A. Strauss
FOUNDATION



PROVIDING PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS SINCE 1997

2024 Scholarship Information Session

October 1, 2023

How many Strauss Scholars are there?

- ★ The Donald A. Strauss Scholarship Foundation awarded its first scholarships in April 1997.
- ★ As of the 2023 awards, 353 projects have been funded.
- ★ 14 of those projects were shared so a total of 367 Strauss Scholars.

The Scholarship

- ★ The Donald A. Strauss Scholarship Foundation awards \$15,000 to as many as 15 outstanding students to pursue their projects of public service and social change.
- ★ Up to \$7,000 of the award can be applied to the Scholar's school tuition and expenses.

Are You Eligible?

- ★ Do you attend one of the 23 California Campuses where the Scholarship is offered?
- ★ Do you have one or two years remaining until graduation?
- ★ Are you a full-time student in good academic standing?
- ★ Have you demonstrated a passion for making a difference in the area to be pursued?

Original 14 Schools

Loyola Marymount University

Scripps College

Occidental College

Stanford University

Pomona College

UC- All 9 Undergraduate Campuses

9 New Schools

Cal Poly SLO

Santa Clara University

CSU Chico

University of San Francisco

CSU Fullerton

University of Southern California

San Diego State University

University of San Diego

San Jose State University

What Is In the Application?

- ★ Application Summary (download form from www.straussfoundation.org)
- ★ One page Resumé
- ★ One page Personal Essay
- ★ 4 page Proposal, which includes a Timeline and a Budget
- ★ 2 Letters of Recommendation
 - If the project is to be done with a partner institution, a Letter of Support from that organization's leadership.
- ★ Transcript
- ★ Acceptance Agreement (download form from the website)

Special 2024 Guidelines

- ★ How does COVID-19 impact the Strauss?
 - Because of uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, you should include plans for an impactful project to be done remotely, if in-person isn't possible.
 - Any proposed international travel will require an addendum explaining a backup option should it not be safe. The letter of support from an organization supporting your work should acknowledge both plans.

Project Proposal - A Closer Look

- ★ Explain the social change or service objective, and your innovative means to achieve it.
- ★ Provide a plan and timeline which covers the academic year until April--rather than summer-only activities or projects involving one day events.
- ★ Provide a plan to mobilize others in the program; younger students will ensure sustainability.
- ★ If undertaken with a partner organization, outline the mutual agreement reached and provide a verification letter.
- ★ Explain how you will measure success, i.e. the number of people impacted, the number of students mobilized, the results produced.
- ★ Have a plan to ensure sustainability of the program.
- ★ Have a budget of \$15,000, which includes up to \$7,000 in Scholarship and at least \$8,000 for project expenses.

Want to Impress Us? Here's How!

- ★ Projects focused clearly on social change / public service / social entrepreneurship.
 - It is not the intention of the Foundation to fund required internships or ongoing faculty research.
- ★ A demonstrated connection between the project and the applicant's passion, life experience.
- ★ Projects that are innovative and timely; an idea, angle or approach that has not been pursued widely and /or that addresses important current issues.
 - If the project is an expansion of an existing program, explain the major additional outreach or impact.
- ★ We like to see a “multiplier effect”. Projects which engage other students or local participants in public service.
 - Tutoring/school-based projects need to be scalable -- multiple classes or ideally, multiple schools.
- ★ Sustainability and Continuity
 - Projects sustained over the school year.
 - Plans for future leadership.

Visit our website and connect
with us on social media.

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We hope you'll apply!