

Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development (PCAFPD)

Scholarship Program

The Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development (PCAFPD) is a non-profit organization in the United States of America. Former Peace Corps Volunteers and staff who served in the Philippines founded the organization in 1983. The scholarship program is supported by former Volunteers and staff, their families and friends, and Filipino-American organizations and individuals. The organization is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors based in Washington DC with board members in the United States and the Philippines. The Vice President for Philippine Operations and the Ituloy Team - a group of PCAFPD scholar alumni - in Manila administer the program.

The purpose of the Scholarship Program is to contribute to the development of the Philippines by supporting the college education of Filipinos who are committed to community service in the Philippines in their professional and personal lives, and who otherwise would not be able to attend college. Since our founding, the Foundation has supported the undergraduate education of over 200 Filipinos who have gone on to successful careers in both the public and private sectors in the Philippines.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a scholarship you MUST:

- Be a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines
- Graduate from high school by the end of the current school year (or before).
- Have a record of strong academic performance.
- Demonstrate financial need. Priority is given to applicants from low income households, generally those below the poverty line for a family of four.
- Have performed volunteer community service work.
- Be committed to serving your community and/or country, *in the Philippines*, following your graduation from college.
- Pass any qualifying tests for the school or program to which you are applying before the scholarship is granted. You may apply for the scholarship before taking the exam, but it is your responsibility to register for and pass the exam.
- Generally, you may not accept any other scholarships in conjunction with a PCAFPD scholarship *without* prior approval of the PCAFPD Board of Directors. In some cases, PCAFPD may award a scholarship to a student who has been awarded another scholarship. You must include a statement explaining your need for financial support in addition to the support offered by PCAFPD. Failure to inform PCAFPD of a concurrent scholarship award will result in immediate termination of the PCAFPD scholarship.

Please note the following:

- This scholarship is not intended for people planning to work overseas. Scholars are expected to contribute to their communities and country by working *in the Philippines* after graduation.
- Applicants proposing fields of study with high potential to contribute to Philippine development will be given priority
- Priority may be given to applicants who
 - propose to study at a state (public) college or university
 - rank in the top 10% of their most recent academic class
 - are not yet enrolled in college

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NOTE: The typical PCAFPD scholarship award is to those who have not attended post-secondary education before. If you have already begun your college education you **must** include a statement explain how you have supported your education and why you are now applying for a PCAFPD scholarship.

- demonstrate the greatest financial need

Required Documents

Use this as a final checklist for submission of REQUIRED application materials:

- ❑ Completed application form
- ❑ Three Personal Statements (*see instructions below*)
- ❑ A copy of your grade reports from high school and college (if applicable).
- ❑ A letter from your high school principal, registrar or other senior administrative official describing your extra-curricular activities, leadership potential, and overall suitability for the scholarship
- ❑ One letter from your barangay captain, a religious leader, a teacher, a Peace Corps Volunteer, or a civic leader (not related to you) describing:
 - Your experience in, and commitment to, community service
 - Your leadership potential
- ❑ The most recent Income Tax Return (or Certification for Exemption/non-filing of Income Tax) of the person financially responsible for you, the applicant.
- ❑ If currently enrolled in college, or if you have taken some college courses, you must include the following information in addition to the requirements above:
 - A complete transcript from the college(s) attended (in addition to your grade report from 4th year high school)
 - One letter of recommendation from a college professor
 - Submit essay number 5, explained below
 - how you have financed your college education to date and
 - why you need further financial assistance to finish your education
- ❑ Please do **not** include additional certificates or photos.

Application Procedure

- You must submit your application form, together with the required documents listed above, no later than September 30, to:
**Mr. Roland de Jesus
Benguet Corporation
Universal Re Building
106 Paseo de Roxas
Makati**
- All information and required documentation must be complete and provided as requested or your application will not be considered for review. Please refer to the checklist above to ensure that all materials have been included.
- All application materials, including supporting letters, should be in English.
- The deadline for *receipt* of all application materials in Manila is October 31.

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Selection for Scholarship

Scholarships are awarded based on:

- Academic excellence
- Financial need
- Leadership ability
- Demonstration of commitment to community service
- Thoughtfulness and clarity of personal essays

Notification of Scholarship Awards

- Scholarship awards will be posted on the PCAFPD website (www.rpcvphilippines.org) on or about March 1. Please check the website for your name.
- Successful applicants will also be contacted directly at the address or phone number indicated on their application. Applicants who are not selected for a scholarship will *not* be contacted directly.
- If you are a successful candidate, it is *your responsibility* to contact the Manila office by April 1st in order to finalize your scholarship award.

Scholarship Benefits

- Full tuition and fees for the length of the approved educational program.
- Allowance per semester to help defray the cost of books and educational supplies.
- Stipend of approximately PhP 5000 / semester as contribution to living expenses.
- Reimbursement of other education-related expenses to be considered on a case-by-case basis and subject to prior approval.

Scholarship Obligations

To keep your scholarship, you must:

- Maintain a full load of courses and earn passing grades.
- Submit a transcript of grades at the end of *each* semester.
- Submit an essay at the end of *each* semester describing and reflecting on your experiences during the semester.
- Not accept any other scholarships in combination with this one without prior approval of PCAFPD.
- Request prior approval for changing from one course of study to another (this must be done no later than the first semester of the second year of the course).
- Request prior approval for transfer to another school.
- Participate in PCAFPD networks of scholars and selected activities (e.g. mentoring program, scholar meetings, alumni association, etc.)

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Personal Statements

Required for Application:

Your Personal Statements are a critical part of your application for a scholarship. Please take care in their preparation. Your Personal Statements are the best means the Board has of getting to know you.

- You are required to address three topics.
- There are two additional topics which must be addressed in the following situations
 - If you require funding in addition to the PCAFPD scholarship and/or
 - You are currently in college
- Each statement should be equivalent in length to one sheet of “8.5 by 11” white paper, typed and double-spaced.
- On the top of each page type the following:
 - 1) Your name
 - 2) The date
 - 3) The words “Personal Statement, Topic #1 (or #2 or #3)”
- Define all acronyms and abbreviations.
- Attach the *three pages* to your application.

Topic #1: (one page)

A) Describe any personal hardships or barriers you have had to overcome,

OR

B) Describe an event in your life that either demonstrates your character or helped to shape it.

Topic #2 (one page)

A) Tell us what you want to study in college and why,

AND

B) How you believe that your education will prepare you to contribute to your country's development.

Topic #3 – Please describe any extra-curricular activities and volunteer service in the community, including any leadership positions held, and what you learned from these activities. (one page)

Topic #4 – For those who already have a different scholarship, please explain why you need the PCAFPD scholarship. (one page)

Topic #5 – For those currently in college include a statement explaining how you supported your college education up until now and why you need additional support at this time. (one page)

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Scholarship Application Form

Section I: Student

1. Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____
2. Gender (*circle one*): M F 3. Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
4. Marital Status: (*circle one*): Single Married Separated Divorced Widowed
5. Mailing Address: _____

Permanent Address (if different) _____

Home Province _____
Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____
Email (*required*): _____ Alternate email: _____
6. Education:
a) Are you currently in High School? No ___ Yes ___ If yes, year: _____
b) Are you currently in College? No ___ Yes ___ If yes, year: _____
 If Yes, be sure to respond to Topic #5.
c) If not currently in school - highest grade completed: _____ When? _____
7. What school do you plan to attend if you win this scholarship? (*Give full name of school — not acronym. Include complete address*):

8. Is this school (*check one*): public (state school) _____ private _____
9. Have you passed this school's required entrance examination? No ___ Yes ___
10. What degree do you plan to pursue? _____
11. How many years will it take to complete the course of study? (*If currently in college, how many years are you requesting for the scholarship?*) _____
12. Will you be required to attend summer school to complete the course of study?
No ___ Yes ___ If "yes," how many summers? _____

Section II: Family Information

13. Father's Name: _____
Occupation: _____ Annual Income _____
Mother's Name: _____
Occupation: _____ Annual Income _____
Spouse's Name: (if applicable) _____
Occupation: _____ Annual Income _____

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Scholarship Application Form

Please provide the following information about your brothers and sisters and any other children living with you and your parent(s). If you are a parent yourself, list your own children. *Do not list yourself.* Attach an additional page if needed.

Name	Age	Occupation or Year in School
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Section III: Financial

Estimate the cost of tuition for a *school year*: _____

What amount of money can you and your family afford to contribute each year toward your expenses? _____

Do you have a scholarship other than the PCAFPD scholarship?
No: ____ Yes: ____ If Yes be sure to respond to Topic #4

Do you currently contribute to the family income? _____
If yes, please describe your work and income: _____
Will you work during college? Please explain. _____

Section IV: Miscellaneous

How did you learn about the PCAFPD Scholarship Program?

Successful applicants will be contacted on/about March 1st. What is your preferred method of contact? (*check one*) Email ____ Phone ____ Mobile ____ Mail ____

Section V: Certification:

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the Republic of the Philippines that the information on this application is true and correct and represents the true financial status of my family.

Student's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent's or Guardian's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(*Not necessary if you are: (a) over 21 and (b) living independently*)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30