

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 Foundation 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 - administer the program in Manila.

The PCAFPD offers a Scholarship Program aimed to contribute to the development of the Philippines by supporting the continuing education of Filipino professionals who are committed to community service in the Philippines, and who otherwise would not be able to afford further studies. The program is supported by former Volunteers and staff, their families and friends, and Filipino-American organizations and individuals. Since its founding, the Foundation has supported the undergraduate education of over 200 Filipinos who have gone on to successful careers in both public and private sectors in the Philippines. A few of these PCAFPD alumni went to graduate school and were further supported by the Foundation. Starting in 2019, the Foundation is pleased to open up its scholarship program to the public, not just former alumni, to support graduate students.

Application for Graduate Studies

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a scholarship you MUST:

- Be a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines.
- Have completed an undergraduate degree.
- Have at least one (1) year of professional work experience.
- Have a record of strong academic performance.
- Demonstrate financial need.
- 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 further need for financial support beyond the funding you have already secured. 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
 - demonstrate a strong academic history
 - demonstrate the greatest financial need

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Scholarship Benefits

- Scholars are provided funding to fully cover tuition and fees associated with their chosen course of study.
- Non-working students are eligible for a contribution to cover their living expenses. Working graduate students need to demonstrate their need for assistance with living expenses in order to be considered for this benefit.
- In addition to tuition and fees, scholars can avail of up to PhP10,000 in support of their thesis. Prior to receiving their funding, they must submit a funding proposal to the Vice President of Philippines Operations.

Scholarship Obligations

- Maintain a full load of courses (unless approved for part-time attendance).
- Complete their degree within the duration prescribed by the college/university. Students who are approved for part time studies should complete their studies no more than one and a half times of the duration of the graduate degree. For example, a part-time student should complete a 2-year degree within three years.
- Earn passing grades.
- Submit 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.
- Maintain regular communication with PCAFPD/Manila office.
- *Request prior approval* before changing course of study or transferring to another school. Such changes are not generally appropriate in graduate school and may cause you to lose credit for completed work. In this case, the Foundation may choose to terminate your scholarship.
- *Notify the Foundation immediately if you receive another scholarship.* If you have another source of funding to support your graduate education, the Foundation may choose to adjust your scholarship accordingly. This will allow us to use our scarce resources to fund other deserving students.
- *Join the PCAFPD Scholars and Alumni Association (PSAA)* and actively participate in local activities (including mentoring younger scholars) to the extent possible.

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Required Documents

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

- Completed application form
- Proposal for Graduate Studies
- College transcripts
- A letter of recommendation from college professor, senior administrative official, registrar, etc. 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, *or* if you have taken some graduate courses, you must include the following information in addition to the requirements above:
 - Submit an essay explaining:
 - 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

- Submit this application form and supporting documents electronically to Mr. Roland de Jesus, Vice-President for Philippine Operations at rpdeejay@yahoo.com OR mail 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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Application for Graduate Studies

Section I: Student

1. Name: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

2. Gender (*check one*): Male ____ Female ____

3. Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

4. Marital Status: _____

5. Mailing Address: _____

Permanent Address (if different) _____

Home Province _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile : _____ Email: _____

6. Undergraduate Education

Year graduated from college: _____

College attended: _____

Course of study: _____

7. Which graduate school do you plan to attend? (*Give full name of school—not acronym. Include complete address*):

8. Is this school (check one): public _____ private _____

9. Have you already been accepted into this school? No ____ Yes ____

10. What degree do you plan to pursue? _____

11. How many years will it take to complete the proposed course of study? (*If currently in graduate school, how many years are you requesting for the scholarship?*) _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(*Print out name if submitted electronically; printed name serves as your signature*)

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Application for Graduate Studies

Proposal for Graduate Studies

The Board of Directors' decision on granting a scholarship will be mainly based on your proposal. Please take time to reflect on your objectives for graduate education, and provide a clear and well-prepared proposal.

There are four sections to the proposal. Please type the answers to these questions on a separate sheet and attach them to your application. Type your name and the date on each page. If you choose to submit your application electronically as a Word document, please include the attachments in the *same* document with the application form.

#1 Background:

Please describe your activities, both professionally and as a volunteer, since your graduation from college.

#2 Financial:

Please describe your *financial situation* and why you need assistance to attend graduate school. What amount can you or your family contribute towards your schooling? Where will you live during graduate school? Do you plan to work during graduate school? What other sources of support do you have for graduate school?

#3 Proposed Course of Study:

Explain why you have chosen this graduate program and school. What are your plans for future employment and volunteer work? How will a graduate degree help you to contribute to Philippine development?

#4 Budget:

Present a detailed budget for your graduate studies. The budget *must* include the following information:

- Number of semesters required for the program
- Tuition and fees per semester
- An estimate of other related expenses (thesis expenses, books, supplies, lab fees, field work fees, etc). Please itemize these expenses.
- Other sources of financial support for any of these expenses

Please include any other information that you think is relevant (particularly if the cost per semester will vary). It is important that your estimates are as accurate as possible. Please consult the college staff as necessary to obtain this information.

#5 For currently enrolled students only:

Submit an essay answering the following questions:

- How you have financed your college education to date and
- Why you need further financial assistance to finish your education

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