First Degree Scholarship Application Information

Eligibility

1. High school sophomores residing in Salt Lake County.

2. Students are *not* eligible to apply if any parent or stepparent has graduated with a bachelor's degree from a college or university in the United States.

3. Students are not eligible if household income is greater than $75,000.

Award Details
1. One recipient per school year will be selected.

2. The scholarship will pay for tuition and fees for up to eight semesters at a qualified university in the state of Utah (see list). Individual adaptation may be implemented on a case by case basis.

3. If a recipient chooses a university not listed on the qualified university list, the amount of the award will be discussed and approved by the scholarship board.

4. Generally, the scholarship will be paid directly to the school where the recipient is enrolled.

5. Recipients are encouraged to apply for other scholarships and financial aid. If the recipient is awarded other scholarships, First Degree Scholarship will pay the balance of tuition and fees. In addition, First Degree Scholarship will also match the amount awarded in other scholarships (up to $5,000 per year) toward room, board, books, and living expenses.

6. The award can be deferred for up to two years, with approval from the scholarship board.

7. **Mentoring:** Mentoring is a major component of this scholarship. The recipient will be assigned two mentors upon award. It is expected that the mentors will help the student with college preparation, including studying for and taking ACT exams, visiting and applying to colleges, and applying for financial aid.

   The mentors will continue to mentor the student through their high school career and through their graduation from college.

   Parents and recipient agree to cooperate with scholarship committee mentors.

8. The recipient will be required to maintain a cumulative 2.7 (minimum) GPA through the remainder of high school.

9. Three applicants will be selected as finalists to be interviewed by the scholarship board. One student will receive the scholarship as described. The two runners-up will each receive a one-time $250 scholarship, paid to the college of their choice.

Letters of Recommendation
1. Each applicant is required to submit two letters of recommendation. One of the letters must be from a teacher at the school the applicant currently attends.

2. The letters of recommendation should be emailed directly to: firstdegreescholarship@gmail.com. The applicant's name should be in the subject line of the email.

3. Applicants may use the attached form to give to those people who will write letters of recommendation.

Deadline and Submittal
1. Applications must be submitted no later than January 31, 2022.

2. Applications that are incomplete will be disqualified.

3. Submit applications via email to: firstdegreescholarship@gmail.com

   If an applicant has any difficulty submitting, please email firstdegreescholarship@gmail.com with questions.

4. Checklist for submittal:
   - Completed and signed scholarship application
   - Unofficial current transcript (include for all schools attended from ninth grade to current) (Email a scanned or photographed copy of your transcript.)
   - Two letters of recommendation

5. Interview and Award Dates
   Applicants will be notified by April 1, 2022 if they are selected as a finalist.
   Finalists will be interviewed by April 15, 2022.
   Award winner will be selected and notified by April 30, 2022.

Qualified University List

The following are colleges and universities that are qualified for this scholarship (see Award Details)

Colleges and Universities

BYU
Dixie State University
Snow College
Salt Lake Community College
Southern Utah University
University of Utah
Utah State University
Utah Valley University
Weber State University
Western Governors University

Technical Colleges:

Bridgerland Applied Technology College
Dixie Applied Technology College
Mountainland Applied Technology College
Ogden-Weber Applied Technology College
Tooele Applied Technology College
Southwest Applied Technology College
Uintah Basin Applied Technology College
Davis Applied Technology College