

Scholarship F.A.Q.'s

Q-1: What should I do to be ready to apply for Pamplin Scholarships?

A:

- **File a 2009-2010 FAFSA now!** ALL applicants must file prior to submitting an on-line Scholarship Application.
- **Update Hokie-Spa and major(s)/minor(s) information!** Avoid becoming ineligible for scholarships by updating your record! Check all contact information, anticipated graduation date, and major(s)/minor(s) etc. Most scholarships have specific restrictions in the criteria that must be verified against the student record.
- **Review the 2009-2010 Pamplin Scholarship List to determine your eligibility for individual scholarships.** Read the scholarship qualifications very carefully so that you do not apply for scholarships that you will not be eligible for.
- **Update your resume and an individual essay for each scholarship you plan to apply for.** Each applicant must submit a resume, and one essay per scholarship (1 page or 250 words, max). Save each document separately so that you may upload them individually when you apply.

Q-2: If I already have a 2008-2009 FAFSA on file, do I need to submit another one?

A: Yes, because recipients will receive their scholarships in the 2009-2010 academic year, so everyone must file a **2009-2010 FAFSA**.

Q-3: If I know I do not need financial aid and I am not planning to apply for a “need-based” scholarship, why am I required to file a FAFSA?

A: This policy exists to ensure that all scholarships, “need-based” or not, are properly awarded to every recipient. Students cannot receive a college-level Pamplin scholarship without having a 2009-2010 FAFSA on file.

Q-4: How do I apply for a 2009-2010 FAFSA?

A: Go to the Financial Aid and Scholarships website for general information, helpful hints, FAFSA4caster, frequently asked questions, and a link to apply for the FAFSA on-line. The FAFSA is available for completion on January 1, prior to the upcoming aid year, and must be submitted (with valid signatures) by Virginia Tech's March 11 priority deadline.

Q-5: I have not filed my tax return yet, so how can I complete the 2009-2010 FAFSA?

A: When filing the FAFSA, use of actual tax information is preferred, but due to deadline dates, **estimated tax information is acceptable. If you use estimated tax information you may need to make online corrections if anything changes after filing your tax returns.**

Q-6: I am an International student, can I still apply for scholarships since I cannot file a FAFSA?

A: Yes. However, International students do not complete a FAFSA. Instead, they are required to click here to complete a [College Board Expected Family Contribution \(EFC\) Calculator](#). After completion, submit a copy of the estimate printout to Stephanie Breeding in the VT Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid. The document can be submitted in person at 200 Student Services Building; by fax to 540.231.9139; or, by e-mail/scanned document to sbreed@vt.edu. Important: Identify on the document that it is to be used for Pamplin Scholarship application purposes.

Q-7: I filed my 2009-2010 FAFSA and updated all of my information, how do I apply for scholarships?

A: Go to the [Scholarships page](#) on the Pamplin Undergraduate Programs website to apply on-line. **(NO paper applications will be accepted).**

Q-8: When is the Scholarship Application deadline?

A. All applications must be submitted on-line **prior to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, 2009.**
Note: The deadline is during spring break.

Q-9: What scholarships are available this year?

A: Go to the Scholarship page on the Pamplin Undergraduate Programs website to view the 2009-2010 Pamplin Scholarship List. The listings are alphabetized by last name of the scholarship. Only the college-level scholarships are listed here, so if you are interested in applying for a university or departmental scholarship, you may contact Financial Aid or your individual department to inquire about their application procedures.

Q-10: How do I know if I am eligible for the college-level scholarships?

A: Compare your qualifications with the eligibility requirements listed for each scholarship. If eligible, you may apply for one or more. Please note that while students may apply for multiple scholarships, it is uncommon to receive more than one award.

Q-11: What is a “need-based” scholarship, and am I eligible to apply for it?

A: Although all students are required to file a FAFSA to be eligible to apply, ALL need-based scholarships will be awarded ONLY to those students with financial-need, as determined by results from the 2009-2010 FAFSA. You may use the [FAFSA 4Caster](#) to get a *general estimate* of your eligibility.

Q-12: I am a sophomore now, but will be a junior by the end of the spring semester. How do I determine my grade level when considering scholarship qualifications?

A: To properly award scholarships, a student's class level is **NOT determined by credits**, but by an estimated **expected date of completion**.

When considering your eligibility related to class level, use the following guide:

If you plan to graduate in:

December 2011, May 2012, or Summer 2012 = **“rising sophomore”**

December 2010, May 2011, or Summer 2011 = **“rising junior”**

December 2009, May 2010, or Summer 2010 = **“rising senior”**

*The chart above still applies to scholarships that do not state the word “rising”, preceded by sophomore, junior, or senior.

Q-13: When will I be notified if I am a scholarship recipient?

A: All applicants will be notified by early May, 2009.

Q-14: If I receive a scholarship, when will I be recognized at the Annual Honors Banquet and receive my scholarship?

A: The Annual Honors banquet will be held in the early fall of 2009. In addition to your notification letter, a formal invitation will be sent to you over the summer with the banquet details. Awards are deposited into student accounts, distributed over the 2009-2010 academic year (unless otherwise noted in the recipient's letter).

Q-15: If I receive a scholarship, do I have to attend the Annual Honors Banquet?

A: Yes, you will be required to attend. When you complete the online Scholarship Application, the last step asks you to verify that your information is correct, to write the donor a thank-you letter if you are a recipient, and that you will agree to attend the banquet. It is a very nice event that celebrates the achievements of Pamplin students.