



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS- SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS AND FAMILIES

### **Q: What is a scholarship program?**

A: A scholarship program provides money in the form of an educational scholarship grant to help cover the costs of education/attendance such as tuition, books, room and board or transportation.

### **Q: What is a scholarship?**

A: A scholarship is a gift, money that you do not have to pay back. This is available to qualifying **Pindler** employees and their family members. A scholarship is not a loan, you ARE NOT borrowing this money.

### **Q: What is the History of the Pindler Cares Education Scholarship Program?**

A: **Pindler** established the **Pindler Cares Education Scholarship Program** in **2020 with Desert Scholarship Foundation** to help you and your immediate family members with the financial burden of attending a post-secondary school. Post-secondary schools can be a junior college, a university, a trade school, or a certificate program.

### **Q: Who is Desert Scholarship Foundation?**

A: Desert Scholarship Foundation manages the scholarship program and process for your employer. We are completely independent from **Pindler**. This means that the information you share with us to determine a scholarship grant, like your personal circumstances or finances will not be shared with your employer. Desert Scholarship Foundation is a public non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to administer and manage scholarship programs for companies like **Pindler**.

### **Q: How is the scholarships program funded?**

A: Pindler donates money annually to fund all the scholarships gifted through Pindler Cares Education Scholarship Program.



DESERT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION  
44801 VILLAGE COURT, SUITE 201 PALM DESERT, CA 92260  
760-797-7484 • DESERTSCHOLARSHIP.ORG • EIN 81-2886019



**Q: Who can apply for a scholarship?**

A: Dependents/children of a current full-time employee, employed for a minimum of 18 months, with Pindler & Pindler, Inc. Dependents\* of the employee must be 25 years of age or under when applying.

**Q: I am a child of a long-term Pindler employee, is there anything else I am required to have to apply for a scholarship?**

A: Yes, you must be 25 years old or younger, you must be a high school graduate or a high school Senior graduating in the Spring. You are required to maintain a 2.5 GPA.

**Q: What type of school do I need to attend to use the scholarship?**

A: Everyone is looking to accomplish something different with their education. The scholarship can be used for any type of education after high school graduation. This includes, but is not limited to, junior college, two or four-year college, trade school, technical school or certificate programs. This scholarship does not fund higher education beyond a Bachelor's degree.

**Q: What is the typical amount of money I could expect for a Pindler scholarship?**

A: \$5,000.00 maximum award to anyone attending a trade school or four-year college program.  
\$2,500.00 maximum award to anyone attending a two-year/associate degree or certificate program.

**Q: Can I receive the scholarship more than one time?**

A: Yes! You can receive the scholarship up to five times. You must apply every year. Once you have received the scholarship for 5 academic years, you will no longer be eligible for the scholarship award. If you drop out or are kicked out of school, you will not be eligible to apply again even if you only received the scholarship one time.

**Q: What if my plans change and I want to use the money from the scholarship at a different time?**

A: Scholarships can be used during the academic year in which you applied. If you apply in the beginning of 2024, your scholarship award must be used during the 2024-2025 academic year. We will not hold your scholarship for future years.



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**Q: How do I apply for the scholarship?**

A: Applications are completed online. Visit [www.desertscholarship.org](http://www.desertscholarship.org) and select Apply Now, then select Pindler Cares Scholarship. This will take you to a page with all the information you need to apply and a direct link to the application. You can use any device to apply but we recommend a computer or tablet.

**Q: When do applications open and close?**

A: Applications open at the beginning of each calendar year. For scholarships toward the 2024-2025 academic year, the application will close on April 7.

**Q: What information is required in the scholarship application?**

A: Each student is required to submit:

- 2 letters of recommendation from non-family members
- Your most recent school transcripts
- Write a simple essay prompt
- Provide information about the school you plan to attend
- Personal contact information and basic financial information to verify your eligibility, connect with you personally and determine how much money you need for your education.

Please remember, we are a completely independent from **Pindler**, and their management team. We do not share your personal finances or situation with your employer.

**Q: How long does the application take to complete?**

A: Most applicants spend 20 to 30 minutes completing the form. Additional time is required to collect the required documents.

**Q: When will I find out if I am accepted for a scholarship?**

A: End of April, each applicant will be notified if their application has been accepted or denied for a scholarship. If your application is accepted, you will be requested to provide additional information in an online acceptance form. The acceptance form requests details about the school you plan to attend. You are also required to provide a one-minute thank you video and thank you letter.



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**Q: How does Desert Scholarship Foundation determine my scholarship award amount?**

A: Awards are determined using a standard scoring rubric that scores letters of recommendation, honors, awards, community service, work history, grade point average, a student statement, financial need and type of school you are attending. The more information you can provide on your application, the better.

**Q: When will I find out how much money I am receiving for the scholarship?**

A: Every year in August Desert Scholarship Foundation determines the award amount of each scholarship and notifies each student by email and US Mail.

**Q: What if I decide to change schools?**

A: Change happens! If you decide to attend a different school after you apply for the scholarship, after you are accepted for a scholarship award or in the middle of the academic year, please notify Desert Scholarship Foundation immediately. We want to help you make sure your scholarship money follows you to your new school.

**Q: I still have questions, is there someone I can talk to?**

A: Yes! Blair Moss at Desert Scholarship Foundation is always available to help answer any questions you have and help you through the process of applying. However, she does not speak Spanish, so please notify Pindler if you need assistance and we can help set up a translator to assist you. You can reach Blair Moss by email, phone or text:

Blair Moss, Desert Scholarship Foundation

Phone/Text: 760-797-7484

Email: [blair@desertscholarship.org](mailto:blair@desertscholarship.org)



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