



## **KANSAS EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP**

The Kansas Education Opportunity Scholarship is intended to assist first-generation college students and/or dependents of teachers and paraprofessionals in Kansas with their first undergraduate degree. This scholarship is both need-based and merit-based; recipients are selected based on academic proficiency and financial need as determined by federal methodology. **Priority in awarding is given to graduating high school seniors entering their first year of college.**

### **To qualify for the Education Opportunity Scholarship, you must:**

- **Be a first-generation college student.** This means neither of your parents/legal guardians have completed a bachelor's degree (completing an associate's degree or completing some college but not attaining a degree is also acceptable). **OR;**
- **Be a dependent of a teacher or paraprofessional in the state of Kansas.** Your parent/guardian must be actively working as a licensed teacher or paraprofessional in Kansas, grades pre-K through 12. Documentation of their teaching position is required (long-term substitutes do not qualify). **AND;**
- Be a permanent Kansas resident. **AND;**
- Enroll full-time as an undergraduate student at an eligible Kansas college; this includes the state universities, independent colleges, Washburn University, community and technical colleges in Kansas. **AND;**
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress towards your degree. **AND;**
- Have financial need according to federal methodology (your college financial aid office will calculate this based off the information on your FAFSA).

### **APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS**

**ALL applicants** for the Kansas Education Opportunity Scholarship must:

- ◆ Complete the FAFSA online at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)
- ◆ Submit the Education Opportunity Scholarship application online at [sfa.kansasregents.org](http://sfa.kansasregents.org). Deadline is May 1.

**NEW applicants** must also:

- ◇ Submit the **Education Opportunity Scholar** form completed by a high school official or academic advisor; **OR**
- ◇ If applying as a dependent of a teacher/para, submit the **Employment Verification Form**, completed by an official at the school where the parent is employed. This form is not needed for first-generation applicants, **AND;**
- ◇ A birth certificate or a certificate of adoption showing the relationship between the applicant and the teacher/para.

**RENEWAL applicants** must also:

Submit annually the **Employment Verification Form** to document that your parent/guardian is still employed as a teacher/para in Kansas. This form is not needed for renewal applicants who are first-generation college students.

### **The deadline to apply for the Kansas Education Opportunity Scholarship is May 1.**

Education Opportunity Scholarship recipients may receive **up to \$1,850 annually (\$925/semester)** based on financial need as measured by federal methodology using data submitted on the student's FAFSA. This award is dependent on the availability of state funds. Recipients may apply to renew the scholarship consecutively each school year, up to four years (8 semesters) of undergraduate studies. Renewal applicants must continue to meet the eligibility criteria each year.