



Enhanced Scholarship FAQ

Please read this before you submit your online application. If you have any questions that are not answered by the FAQ, please feel free to reach out to us at info@thelegacyguild.com.

1) What is the Enhanced Scholarship?

It is additional support for Legacy Guild Scholars with significant financial need, awarded in addition to the traditional scholarship ("the Base Scholarship").

2) Why is The Legacy Guild doing this?

We want to direct extra support to Scholars facing the highest financial burden, using a clear, consistent process so awards are fair and sustainable year to year.

3) Does applying for Enhanced Scholarship affect my Base Scholarship application?

No. Base Scholarship eligibility and consideration are unchanged. The Enhanced Scholarship is an optional additional review.

4) What programs qualify for Enhanced Scholarship?

Students in 4-year undergraduate programs (including transfers) may qualify. Students in trade/technical programs may also qualify in certain cases, including programs that are not Pell/MAP eligible if program costs exceed \$3,000.

5) What is SAI, and why do you require SAI of 0 or lower?

SAI (Student Aid Index) is a federal FAFSA measure used to assess financial capacity. Using $SAI \leq 0$ gives the program an objective way to focus on the highest-need households.

We recognize that many families with an SAI above 0 may still face challenges paying for college. However, because of limited funds we needed to establish an objective federal metric that targets those with the highest need. We still support all eligible Scholars with our Base Scholarship. We will continue to evaluate our ability to increase the support from our Enhanced Scholarship over time and if funds allow we may expand the need threshold.

6) What if my family has real need but my SAI is above 0?

You can still receive the Base Scholarship. The Enhanced Scholarship is targeted to the highest-need group as defined by the policy.

7) What documents do I need to submit?

SAI verification from your FAFSA Submission Summary (with sensitive information redacted).

8) How do you protect my privacy?

You may redact sensitive information. Access is limited to reviewers, and information is retained only as long as needed for administration.

9) How much is the Enhanced Scholarship?

It depends on (a) the size of the annual pool and (b) how many students qualify. Awards may be prorated and are capped at \$3,000 in addition to the base scholarship.

10) Why doesn't the Enhanced Scholarship cover community college students?

The Enhanced Scholarship is designed to target the largest documented unmet financial need. For students with an SAI of 0 or lower, community college costs are often largely covered by the combination of the Federal Pell Grant and the Illinois MAP Grant. For that reason, we reserve the limited Enhanced Scholarship pool for Scholars who typically face larger remaining gaps, most often at 4-year institutions or in qualifying programs where grant coverage does not fully meet the Cost of Attendance.

Community college students remain fully eligible for the Legacy Guild Base Scholarship, which can help cover important incidental expenses like books, supplies, transportation, and technology.

We understand that "cost of attendance" can include non-tuition expenses that vary by family; the Base Scholarship is intended to help with those practical, day-to-day costs while we focus the Enhanced pool on the largest documented gaps that remain after grants and scholarships.

If your SAI ≤ 0 and federal and state grants do not cover your tuition, please let us know so we can consider changing the award criteria.

11) Will anyone know I applied for or received the Enhanced Scholarship?

No. The Legacy Guild does not distinguish publicly between Base and Enhanced recipients.

12) What happens if I get an Enhanced Scholarship, but end up attending a community college?

We understand that circumstances change. If you apply for the Enhanced Scholarship expecting to attend a 4-year program or other qualifying program and your plans change prior to the start of school, please let us know. If your plans change during the year (i.e. you start at a four-year school and move to a community college) please let us know and we can adjust the following year scholarship appropriately.

If you still have any questions that were not answered by the FAQ, please email us at info@thelegacyguild.com