

2020 Groups Scholars Student Application



Do I Qualify?

A recommendation from a Groups Scholars Recommender is the only way to gain opportunity to apply to the Groups Scholars Program. You must:

1. Be a resident of the state of Indiana (at least one of the applicant's parents or legal guardians must live in Indiana.) No exceptions.
2. Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (have a green card) by May 15. No exceptions. Proof of citizenship will be required upon admission to the program.

Do you know the difference? DACA versus Green Card



Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) offers temporary protected status and work authorization to individuals without legal status in the United States. It does not, however, allow a student to be funded by the federal government. These students are neither funded nor qualify for the Groups Scholars Program since our funding is provided by federal and state governments.

3. Meet the Minimum College Preparatory Courses:

Minimum College Preparatory Courses

8 credits (semesters) of English – such as literature, grammar, composition and journalism.

7 credits (semesters) of mathematics – including 4 semesters of algebra and 2 semesters of geometry (or an equivalent 6 semesters of integrated algebra and geometry) **AND** 1 semester of calculus, pre-calculus or trigonometry. Contact Jana Cox if you have questions about this requirement.

6 credits (semesters) of social science – including 2 semesters of U.S. history, 2 semesters of world history/civilization/geography, and 2 additional semesters in government, economics, sociology, history, or similar topics.

6 credits (semesters) of science – including at least 4 semesters of laboratory sciences (biology, chemistry, or physics)

4 credits (semesters) of world languages

3 or more credits (semesters) of additional College Preparatory Courses – additional mathematics courses are recommended for students intending to pursue a science degree and additional world language courses are recommended for all students.

Students should schedule and complete at least 3 academic courses during the second semester of senior year. (Mid-year graduation is not recommended.)

NOTE: Application does NOT guarantee admission.

Groups Scholars Admissions Review Process

4. You must meet the income guidelines and eligibility criteria below:

Size of Family Unit	Family's Annual Income MUST be Below
1	\$35,000
2	\$45,000
3	\$55,000
4	\$65,000
5	\$75,000
6	\$85,000
7	\$95,000
8	\$105,000
Greater than 8	Add \$10,000 for each additional member

* Preference will be given to first-generation students, or if you are a child of a Groups Alumni. (refer to IUB Admissions)

* A high EFC (Expected Family Contribution) as determined by the FAFSA will reduce the aid a student will receive.

5. **Have a MANDATORY minimum cumulative GPA of at least a 2.5.**
6. Take the SAT by **October 5** or the ACT by **September 14, 2019**. *Scores must be submitted by the testing agency to IU Admissions.* Minimum cumulative score of 750 for the SAT or 15 for the ACT.
7. **Recommend** that the FAFSA is filled out by November 1. Your income will be verified through the IRS data retrieval tool through the Financial Aid office. A high EFC as determined by the FAFSA reduces the amount of the Groups Grant you receive.

NOTE: There are housing options for transgendered individuals at IUB. Information for roommate selection for the SEP will be provided to students via email after attending the Cream & Crimson Welcome at IUB.

Meeting all of the requirements does NOT guarantee admission.

Groups Scholars Program Benefits

The Groups Scholars Program is a proven program of information, support, and guidance that helps provide students with the academic and emotional support necessary to excel in the classroom and beyond.

Supporting Students

Academic Advising

Professional staff advisors work with students as they select their major, design class schedule, and enroll in courses they need to graduate.

Tutoring

Groups Scholars receive free academic tutoring in almost every listed field of study.

Group Grant

Groups Scholars are eligible for need-based grants for up to four years. See financial aid information under Program Benefits for Groups.

Programs & Opportunities

SEP

Summer Experience Program—seven weeks of college courses and transition period to university life. Scholars live in residence halls, are introduced to resources, and become familiar with the campus.

Adaptive Technology

Through collaborative efforts with Adaptive Technology & Accessibility Center, Groups Scholars have access to technologies like Kurzweil 3000 and Inspiration.

Overseas Study

Advice and support for Groups Scholars who desire to spend a summer, a semester, or a year participating in an approved IU Overseas study opportunity.

Leadership Initiative

Students gain leadership skills to help them in all aspects of life, including self-awareness, time management, and critical thinking.

“Groups Five”

XAE

IU chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society. XAE recognizes outstanding academic achievement & strong leadership skills for first-generation students who serve as role models.

Ambassadors

Outstanding junior and senior Groups Scholars are invited into the program. They assist staff with programs, presentations, and serve as guides to incoming Groups Scholars.

Peer Advisor

Students helping students is a key philosophy behind the Groups Scholars Program. These scholars are trained to help with incoming class registration and other activities.

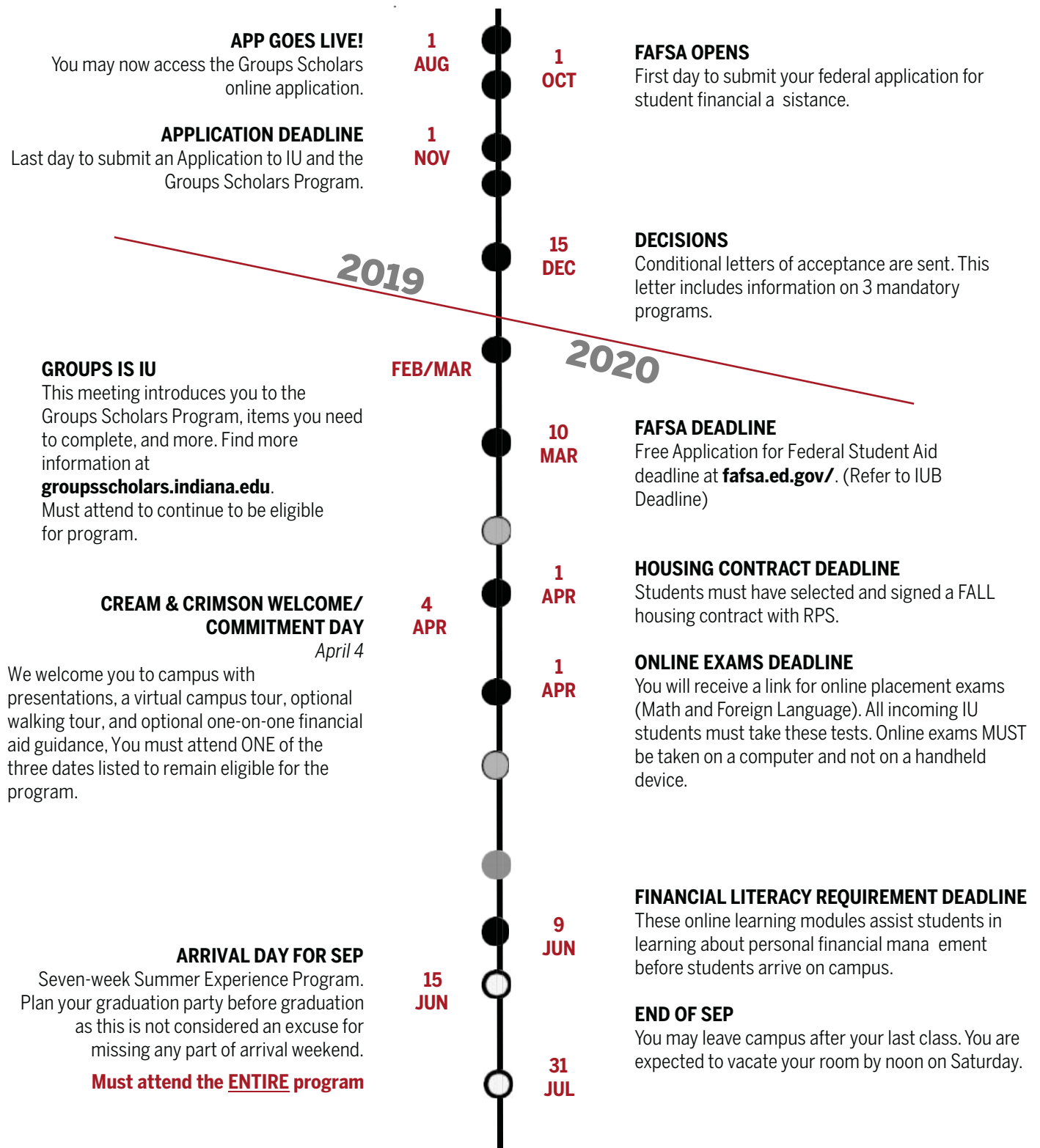
Peer Tutor

Groups Scholars selected to become peer tutors must have a B+ or higher grade in the class, and go through an interview process before being chosen for this role.

STEM

Prepares and advances students as research scientists, physicians, and professionals in health fields via Foundations of Research curriculum & practical lab or research experiences.

Groups Scholars Timeline



If you are selected to participate in the 2020 Groups Scholars Program, you are required to attend ALL EVENTS and fulfill ALL REQUIREMENTS to maintain your program eligibility. **If you do not complete one requirement/event, then you are not invited to the next.** More detailed information will be sent to you via email prior to each event.

Application Procedures

1. Eligible students must complete a Groups Scholars Program Application online at **indiana.edu/~groups/application.html**. Please make sure you have all the information you will need before beginning the **online application**. It is not a savable application. We have provided a worksheet in the next few pages to assist you in completing your application.
2. You then must apply to Indiana University Bloomington (IUB) as any other student would at **admissions.indiana.edu**. You must have a complete application by November 1. You will receive notification from the Office of Admissions as any other student. This means that some students may receive denial notifications from the IUB Office of Admissions. Even if you are denied through the IUB Office of Admissions, you may still be conditionally admitted through the Groups Scholars Program.
3. Submit SAT and/or ACT scores and HS transcripts to the IU Office of Admissions.
4. If you are asked to provide recommendation letters, your recommender will need to send these letters to the Groups Scholars office.

A Groups Scholars COMPLETED APPLICATION includes these components:

- _____ Groups Scholars Application (online) **No Later than Nov 1**
- _____ IUB Application (online) **No later than Nov 1**
- _____ Official Test Scores (submit through testing agency; school code for SAT: 1324 and for ACT: 1210)
- _____ Official Transcript (to IU Admissions via mail or electronically uploaded)
- _____ FAFSA

All elements of your application must be received by November 1, 2019

How to Apply for Financial Aid

You must complete your 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be considered for aid. We recommend that you complete this by no later than November 1. Be sure to include IU Bloomington's school code: 001809. **The 2019-2020 FAFSA will be available on October 1, 2019 and is due by April 15, 2020.**

Prepare to File Your FAFSA

When you file your FAFSA, you'll be asked to include your prior year's income tax and W-2 information. This information is used by the Department of Education to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

If you're considered a dependent student by the FAFSA, you'll be required to include your parents' tax information.

Here are the documents and information you'll want to have ready before you file your FAFSA:

- Federal tax information or tax returns for you, your spouse (if you're married), and your parents (if applicable). This includes W-2 information.
- In the income section of the FAFSA you should retrieve data from the IRS directly into your FAFSA application. This will streamline and expedite the processing of your application. If you do not, the IU Office of Financial Aid will eventually request for you to submit a copy of your Tax Transcript from the IRS.
- Your Social Security Number and your parents' Social Security Numbers if you are providing parent information
- Your Alien Registration Number if you are not a U.S citizen.
- Other information you and your parents (if applicable) may need to provide: checking, savings, investments, and business assets.
- **The IUB school code is 001809.** Be sure to enter this so that your FAFSA information gets sent to IUB.

The amount of the Groups Grant will vary from student to student and will be determined based on the information submitted on the FAFSA.

If you have additional questions about financial aid, please visit IU's Office of Student Financial Assistance website at studentcentral.indiana.edu/financial-aid/ or the Federal Student Aid website at studentaid.ed.gov.

To speak to the financial aid staff directly, you may go to Student Central located on Union Street if you are in Bloomington, or call 812-855-6500.

You do **NOT** need to apply for Summer Aid or complete the 2019-2020 FAFSA.

2019 Groups Scholars Application Worksheet

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS ONLY A WORKSHEET, THE APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE - ALL blanks MUST be completed.

STUDENT INFORMATION

1. First name(Legal) _____ Middle name _____ Last name _____
2. Ethnicity (circle all that apply): American Indian/Alaska Native Asian African-American
Hispanic/Latino Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander White
3. Date of birth _____ (MM/DD/YYYY)
4. Birth country _____ City _____ State _____
5. Are you a resident of the state of Indiana? YES NO
6. Are you a U.S. citizen? YES NO
If you answered NO, please email a copy of your Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) to **groups@indiana.edu** or fax to 812-856-5235.
(See DACA/Green Card section of the application packet for information.)
7. Phone (with area code) _____
8. Email address _____
Note: Be sure to check this email address often. *Email is considered official communication at IU.*
9. Are you a ward of the court? YES NO
10. Are you homeless? YES NO
11. Do you have any relatives who have participated in the Groups Scholars Program? YES NO
If 'Yes', please list:
Name _____ Groups Year _____ Relationship _____
Name _____ Groups Year _____ Relationship _____
Name _____ Groups Year _____ Relationship _____
12. Have you been employed? YES NO If YES where? _____
13. Is English your first language? YES NO
14. T-Shirt Size S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2XL _____ 3XL _____ 4XL _____

PARENT INFORMATION

15. Who do you, the student, live with? Choose one:
 - Mother and Father (adopted or biological)
 - Mother Only (adopted or biological)
 - Father Only (adopted or biological)
 - Legal Guardian
 - Other: _____
16. Parent(s), Legal Guardian(s) Full Names:

2019 Groups Scholars Application Worksheet

17. Are your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or adopted parent(s) residents of the state of Indiana? YES NO
18. Email address for a parent, legal guardian, or adopted parent _____
19. Has your biological or adopted mother earned a four-year bachelor's degree? YES NO
20. Has your biological or adopted father earned a four-year bachelor's degree? YES NO
21. How many people live in your household?* _____
22. What was the annual income of your parent(s), legal guardian(s) or adopted parent(s) last year?
(You may be asked to provide copies of tax documents for verification.) \$ _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

23. High School _____ City/State _____
24. Name of your Recommender _____
25. Recommender's email address _____
26. Are you a 21st Century Scholar? YES NO
27. Have you taken the SAT or ACT? YES NO

Note: To be eligible for the Groups Scholars Program, you must have scores for the SAT or ACT by November 1, 2017.

28. List your extracurricular and volunteer activities.

29. List any AP/Dual Credit/IB courses that you have already taken or will take during your senior year.

Course Name	<u>Economics</u>	Type	<u>IB</u>	College/University Course #	<u>201/202</u>
Course Name	_____	Type	_____	College/University Course #	_____
Course Name	_____	Type	_____	College/University Course #	_____
Course Name	_____	Type	_____	College/University Course #	_____
Course Name	_____	Type	_____	College/University Course #	_____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

30. Do you have any documented disabilities? YES NO
- If 'Yes', what is the disability? _____
31. Have you had any significant illness in the past five years? YES NO
- If 'Yes', please explain _____
32. Are you currently on any prescription medication? YES NO
- If 'Yes', please explain _____

* Students in the foster system are considered wards of the court. As such, only include the student's income if he or she has a part-time job and listing the family size as "1."

2019 Groups Scholars Application Worksheet

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Instructions

Applicants must provide answers to both questions below. Each answer should be between 50-200 words for each question and only ONE paragraph long each. Do not add returns in your response. **We suggest that you type out your answers in a word processing program, save it, and then copy and paste it into the online form.**

1. Discuss how you have persevered through an obstacle or adversity in your personal and/or academic life. (50-200 words)
2. Describe a long-term goal you have set for yourself and how you plan to accomplish it. (50– 200 words)

GROUPS SCHOLARS PROGRAM STUDENT AGREEMENT

The final statement of the online applications is:

Please make sure you have read the "Groups Scholars Program Partnership Agreement." By typing your name and date in the boxes below you agree to the following statement.

"I understand and agree that if I fail to abide by the conditions identified in the "Groups Program Partnership Agreement," I may be dismissed from the Groups Scholars Program, and that the Groups Grant I have been awarded, or that I might have been eligible to receive, will be cancelled."

The "Partnership Agreement" is included as the next page in this packet. Please make sure that you read and understand the provisions in this agreement before you submit the online application.

PLEASE NOTE

THIS IS ONLY A WORKSHEET; THE APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE

AT: https://iu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1lI1S5kpjIDh5Wd

Groups Scholars Program Partnership Agreement

I understand that I have been CONDITIONALLY admitted to the Groups Scholars Program based upon the following understandings and commitments. I understand that if I fail to meet any of these requirements, or do not abide by the Indiana University Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct (The Code) I will be dismissed from the Groups Scholars Program. I authorize the Indiana University Office of Student Ethics to release, receive, and/or discuss education records that contain my personally identifiable information with the Groups Scholars Program while I am a participant in the program.

Requirements for the Groups Scholars Summer Experience Program

- Maintain at least a 2.0 Grade Point Average ("C") in my SEP Core Classes: Composition, Math, and Reading/Reasoning.
- Attendance in all classes, orientation, academic advising meetings, and supplemental courses (for example: PASS) is required: tardiness and/or lack of preparation for class may result in my being marked absent.
- I understand that as a Groups Scholar I am expected to consistently use appropriate manners and social decorum. This includes refraining from swearing, general rudeness and disrespectful behavior, inappropriate loudness, and other behaviors determined to fall into this category.
- I will read and abide by the rules and regulations set forth in The Code available online at indiana.edu/~code/code/index.shtml, which includes refraining from the use of illegal drugs, underage drinking, and all forms of violence.
- I understand that I will not participate in any non-Groups Scholars activities on or off campus. Examples include: apartment, house, or Greek parties.
- I understand that I am expected to be on campus for the entirety of the SEP, except for the designated July 4 weekend, or with prior written permission from the Director of the Groups Scholars Program.

Requirements for the Groups Scholars Summer Experience Program AND Groups Scholars Program Participation during the Academic Year

- Upon successfully completing the SEP, I will return to the Indiana University Bloomington campus and live in University housing during the 2019-20 academic year. If I do not, I will not receive credit for SEP courses taken.
- If my grade point average from the Groups SEP is below a 2.3 GPA, it will be mandatory that I attend tutoring, study tables, and any courses deemed beneficial to ensure my academic success.
- I understand that I am encouraged to take advantage of free tutorial services, regardless of my GPA.
- I will attend all mandatory meetings and classes arranged through the Groups Scholars Program.
- I will make and keep appointments for advising, tutorial services, study skills, and financial aid counseling.
- I will take a restricted course load if advised to do so, and will accept assignments to specific courses.
- I understand that the Groups Scholars Program Scholarship is NOT a full-ride scholarship, and that any award given will be based on my other gift aid and Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); I must file a FAFSA application by March 10 every year I am a student.
- I will meet individually with a Financial Aid Administrator to discuss my financial aid package.
- I understand that the Groups Scholars Summer Experience and Groups Scholars Program does not have child-care services, nor the flexibility to excuse absences for those symptoms commonly accompanying pregnancy.
- I will strive to achieve my goal to earn a baccalaureate degree at Indiana University in a timely manner.
- The Groups Scholars Program strongly discourages pledging a sorority or fraternity or joining Greek interest groups during your freshman year.
- By my signature below, I authorize the Groups Scholars staff to disclose my student education records to parents, guardians, and Recommenders.

I understand and agree that if I fail to abide by the conditions of this agreement I may be dismissed from the Groups Scholars Program and forfeit any Groups Grant that I have been awarded or eligible to receive.

Both students and parents will be required to sign and submit a copy of this agreement during the Groups Is IU area meeting.