So you're applying for a scholarship…

Each year, William Paterson Donor Scholarships help hundreds of students by providing more than one million dollars in financial aid.

In order to ensure that your application meets the requirements necessary to become one of these students, please carefully read all the following important instructions and notes before starting the application.

- **The application will close on Friday, May 27, 2016 at 11:59 PM.**
  After this time, no new information will be accepted and the application will not be re-opened for any reason.

- **By completing the General Application, you are placed in the pool for all scholarship opportunities for which you are eligible based on your student records and answers to the questions in that application.**
  The majority of these scholarships will be awarded by the Donor Scholarship Committee. The remainder will be awarded by the Enrollment Management division or an academic department; these awards may not be based on information from this application.

- **The number and amount of scholarship awards shown are for general information purposes only and should not be considered a guarantee of what you will receive if selected.**
  Actual award amounts vary based on students' individual eligibility factors and funds available.

- **Unless specifically stated otherwise in the description, all scholarship recipients must be full-time students (12 undergraduate credits or 9 graduate credits) at William Paterson University for each of the fall and spring semesters and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.**
  You may still complete the application now even if you do not currently hold full-time enrollment or a 3.0 grade point average. Academic status and progress will be evaluated at the conclusion of each semester.

- **There are scholarship opportunities that require additional information in order to determine your eligibility.**
  If a scholarship requires additional information to determine your eligibility, you will see an "Apply" button. (You may also review "Recommended Opportunities" for a condensed list.) You do not have to answer these questions in order to complete and submit the application as a whole; however, you *must* answer a question if you wish to be considered for that specific scholarship. *If, after reading a scholarship description, you know you are not eligible, please do not apply.*

- **This scholarship application requires a letter of recommendation from a faculty or staff member of the University or from an external supervisor, mentor, or instructor. Please refrain from using a family member for the general letter of recommendation unless s/he also fills one of the roles listed above.**
  You will be asked to provide the recommender's name and email address. S/he will be instructed via an automated email how to upload your letter of recommendation to the Donor Scholarship Committee.

  Please be sure to speak with your reference ahead of time to confirm that s/he will be capable of providing a letter of recommendation prior to the deadline and notify him/her once you have completed the application. If s/he does not receive an email request for a letter of recommendation, check the information you entered.

  Please note: reference requests may go into junk/spam folders, depending on the recipient's filter settings.

- **This scholarship application requires a general essay**.
  We suggest that you write the essay ahead of time in an MS Word document so you are ready to upload it to the application when you reach that section.

  The essay should address (in 300-500 words) the following topic:

  > *How a William Paterson University donor scholarship would influence your education and life goals; education students should specifically address why they want to enter the teaching profession.*

  Please be thoughtful and careful when writing and reviewing your essay. Use this opportunity to tell the committee about yourself, your future goals and aspirations, and why you are deserving of a scholarship.

  You will not be allowed to submit your application until this essay is uploaded!

- **You may upload your résumé.**
  You are not required to upload a résumé; however, it is strongly recommended that you do so, as it may increase your chances of qualifying for a scholarship.

  If you do not upload a résumé, please provide your extracurricular, community service, and employment activities in the spaces provided on the general application. The more information you include, the more you increase your chances of qualifying for a scholarship.

  If you need assistance creating or refining your résumé, please make an appointment at the Career Development Center (Student Center, Room 301; x3291; http://www.wpunj.edu/career-development/).

- **New scholarships may be added between now and the closing of the application on Friday, May 27, 2016.**
  At least once before then, please log back into your completed application to see if any new scholarships have been recommended to you and require additional information.

If you have problems or questions, please contact IAScholarships@wpunj.edu. We will do our best to ensure a timely reply; however, there may be a delay of up to two days, especially weekdays after 5 PM and over the weekend.