

21ST CENTURY SCHOLARSHIP



MONTANA GEAR UP STUDENT FAQ

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP



HOW DO I CLAIM MY SCHOLARSHIP?



Go to Award Montana's website, create an account, and click on the "Montana GEAR UP 21st Century Scholars Award."

Tip: Use a personal email (not your school one) so you can still be reached after you graduate!

Scholarship Claim Availability:

- **Fall semester/quarter:** May 1st - Oct. 1st
- **Spring semester/quarter:** Dec. 1st - Feb. 15th



WHAT IF I GRADUATE EARLY OR ATTEND AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL?

As long as you graduate with a high school diploma from your district, you qualify for the scholarship.

Let your GEAR UP coordinator know so they can make sure Madie adds you to the master list. If you run into any issues, reach out to awardmontana@montana.edu for help.



DO I GET THIS EVERY SEMESTER?

This is a **one-time \$1,000 scholarship**, so you get to choose which semester or quarter it applies to.

When completing your claim form, you'll select the term under "Educational Plans" section.

If you're on a quarter system and want to choose a specific timeline, email awardmontana@montana.edu and we'll do our best to accommodate!



HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO USE THE SCHOLARSHIP?

You have until your 22nd birthday to use your scholarship!

If you're not sure what you want to do right after high school, no worries - you have time to decide before this opportunity expires.



WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO CLAIM?

Before you start, make sure you have:

- Your high school graduation date
- College/program name
- Semester/quarter you want your payment applied to
- Enrollment date (first day of classes)
- Personal email (not school email)
- Phone number
- Mailing address (for your academic success package!)



DO I NEED TO KEEP MY CERTIFICATE?

While it's not required to claim your scholarship, your certificate can be a helpful tool when working with your school's financial aid office.

Some schools may place a temporary placeholder while your payment is processing. If they need to confirm your award, direct them to Madie at mmoore@montana.edu for verification.



WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT WHICH SCHOOL I'M GOING TO?

If you've already visited Award Montana and entered your school information but decide to go somewhere else, email awardmontana@montana.edu so we can update your records.

If you claimed the award but didn't end up enrolling that semester, don't worry – we'll cancel your claim, and you can reclaim it later when you're ready to enroll in a future term.

Tip: Double-check your school details before submitting to avoid delays!



WHAT IF MY CAMPUS ISN'T ON THE LIST?

If your campus isn't listed, select "Other" and provide the basic information about your program or school.

You can use a quick Google search to find what you need – like the school phone number and address.



HOW DO I KNOW MY CAMPUS IS AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION?

Before claiming, make sure your school or program is eligible by searching here:



An eligible institution is one that receives federal funding (i.e., Title IV funding). This helps ensure you are receiving a quality education and working toward a credential recognized by your intended industry.



NEED HELP?

We are here for you! Reach out to either email for any of your questions:

- awardmontana@montana.edu
- Madie Moore at mmoore@montana.edu or 406.449.9129