

Accepting your Scholarship Award and Disbursement

Accepting your Scholarship Award

If you have been selected as a Riverside Community College District scholarship(s) scholarship recipient, the scholarships you have been offered are for the **upcoming academic year**. As the selected recipient you will be sent an email from the scholarship application system and be offered the scholarship opportunity.

You will then need to log in to the scholarship application site and *accept* the scholarship opportunity. There will be other questions you will need to answer and you will be asked to provide more information. You will also be provided with information about the recognition events and disbursement of the scholarship funds.

Scholarship Disbursement for Continuing Students

For students awarded a continuing scholarship for the upcoming academic year, the fall semester portion of the scholarship will be disbursed upon verification of enrollment at any College in the Riverside Community College District for the upcoming fall semester. Scholarships of \$250 or less will be disbursed *all* in the fall semester. Scholarships over \$250 will be disbursed half in the fall semester and half in the spring semester upon verification of eligibility.

RCCD Scholarships are disbursed in the same way other financial aid is disbursed via Bank Mobile Disbursement services. Please be sure to follow the directions in an email you will receive from them to set up your disbursement options.

The scholarship funds are disbursed according to the financial aid disbursement schedule. The scholarship funds are generally disbursed during the first week of the semester after enrollment in the required number of units is verified. If you are not yet enrolled in the required number of units approximately two weeks before the semester begins, the funds will be disbursed on the *next* financial aid disbursement date after you enroll in the required number of units and the classes have started. If you add classes during the first week of the semester, most likely your funds will be disbursed on the next disbursement date. The Financial Aid Disbursement Schedule is located on the Financial Aid page of the college website.

The spring semester portion of the scholarship will be disbursed in mid-February upon verification that you completed the required number of units during the previous fall semester with the GPA required by the scholarship and you have enrolled in units at any College in RCCD for the upcoming spring semester.

If, as a scholarship recipient, you do not complete the required number of units during the fall semester with the GPA required by the scholarship and/or you do not enroll in units for the spring semester, your scholarship will be awarded to an alternate. In most cases, if you will only attend RCCD for the fall semester *and* the scholarship awarded is designated for continuing students; you will only receive the fall portion (half) of the scholarship funds.

Scholarship disbursement dates may be dependent upon receipt of funds from the scholarship donor. If the funds are not received in time for the first disbursement, they will be disbursed on a future disbursement date according to the Financial Aid Disbursement Schedule.

We understand circumstances and plans can change after you have been awarded a scholarship. If you were unable to enroll in the required number of units for your scholarship during the current semester or if you were awarded a scholarship as a student continuing at RCCD (based on the information provided on your scholarship application) and you instead transfer to a four-year university for the academic year you were awarded the scholarship, please notify the scholarship coordinator in the Student Financial Services office at your home college.

You may or may not be eligible for the scholarship depending on the donor's criteria regarding the required units and/or enrollment status. Some scholarships have strict enrollment requirements or are designated *only* for continuing or transfer students. We will do our best to be sure all scholarships are disbursed while adhering to the donors' criteria and wishes.

Scholarship Disbursement for Transfer Students

If you are awarded a scholarship designated for transferring students, the funds will be sent directly to your four-year institution in late August of the upcoming academic year. So that we have record of where to send the scholarship funds, you will be required to enter your transfer school information in the scholarship system when you accept the scholarship opportunity. Or, you can email the Student Financial Services office at your home college. The following information must be included in the email:

- Your name and RCCD student ID#,
- Name of the university you will be transferring to,
- Name and address of the office at the transfer university that accepts outside scholarship funds

Please note, if you do not enroll in at least 6 units at the transfer university, the scholarship funds will be returned to Riverside Community College District and awarded to an alternate recipient.

If you were awarded a scholarship as a student transferring from RCCD based on the information provided on your scholarship application and you had planned to transfer but now will be continuing at RCCD, please notify the scholarship coordinator in the Student Financial Service office at your home college. You may or may not be eligible for the scholarship depending on the donor's criteria. Some scholarships are strictly designated *only* for continuing or transfer students.

Scholarship disbursement dates may be dependent upon receipt of funds from the scholarship donor. If the funds are not received in time for the first disbursement, they will be disbursed on a future disbursement date according to the Financial Aid Disbursement Schedule.