#### Daniels Scholarship Program

# **Information** for **Applicants**

#### What is the Daniels Scholarship Program?

The Daniels Scholarship Program provides the opportunity for motivated students to earn a bachelor's degree that helps them build a successful life and career. Daniels Scholars demonstrate exceptional character, leadership, and a commitment to serving their communities. Bill Daniels would also want his scholars to be proud Americans who value our free enterprise system and are prepared to give the world

their very best shot.

### What are the selection criteria?

Daniels Scholars are selected because they embody the criteria Bill Daniels defined for the program:

- Strength of character
- Leadership potential
- Commitment to serving their communities
- Academic performance or promise
- Well-rounded personality
- Emotional maturity and stability

#### Who can apply?

To be eligible for the Daniels Scholarship Program, students must meet the following requirements at the time of application:

- Be a high school senior graduating from a school in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, or Wyoming
- Be a resident of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, or Wyoming
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- Earn a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0 in high school (on an unweighted 4.0 scale), and earn a minimum SAT Math score of 490 and a minimum Evidence-Based
  - Reading & Writing score of 490, or a minimum ACT score of 18 in each category (writing score not required). Super scoring is not accepted.
- Meet financial eligibility requirement (see "Am I financially eligible?" on the reverse side)

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Complete the Daniels Fund Eligibility Questionnaire Designate a
Recommender and track
their progress

Submit application + required documents and confirm recommendation is submitted

#### How do I apply?

Applying for the Daniels Scholarship Program will take time, and cannot be completed at the last minute. Students are encouraged to register, gather the documents they will need to apply, and identify a reliable recommender as early as possible.

Students will need to take the ACT or SAT and receive their test scores in time to include that information as part of their application by the application deadline.

The completed application — plus all required supporting documents and a recommendation — must be submitted by the deadline.

**Eligibility Questionnaire** | The Eligibility Questionnaire determines general and financial eligibility, and requires information from the 2021 tax return filed by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) claiming the applicant as a dependent.

**Recommendation** | Applicants must obtain a recommendation from a high school representative (principal, teacher, guidance counselor, coach, etc.) who is 21 or older and not related to the applicant. Recommendations are confidential and must be submitted via the online application system. Recommenders receive instructions by email once the student identifies them on their application. An application without a recommendation will not be considered, so students must ensure the recommender meets the submission deadline.

**Submit Application** | Applications and recommendations must be completed and submitted online at **DanielsFund.org** by Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 4:00 PM MST. Late, mailed, faxed, or emailed submissions will not be accepted. Required documentation includes: parent(s) or legal guardian(s) 2021 tax return, official high school transcript, official ACT/SAT scores, proof of citizenship and residency, and proof of college enrollment for any additional claimed dependent(s).

#### am I financially eligible?

In order to be eligible for the Daniels Scholarship Program, the applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must have an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$85,000 or less on the 2021 tax return on which the applicant is claimed as a dependent (AGI appears on line 11 on the 2021 IRS Form 1040).

If there are additional dependents, beyond the applicant, claimed on this tax return, we allow for additional income as follows:

- \$5,000 for each additional dependent not in college
- \$15,000 for each additional dependent in college full-time during the 2022/23 academic year

Please visit DanielsFund.org for specific examples.

The Eligibility Questionnaire determines general and financial eligibility, and requires information from the 2021 tax return filed by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) claiming the applicant as a dependent. The Daniels Fund will ask applicants to upload a copy of their Student Aid Report (SAR) with their application, if available, or as soon as possible before December 15. The SAR is generated by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after it opens on October 1.

#### Where can I use the scholarship?

Daniels Scholars may attend any two-year or four-year, nonprofit, accredited college or university in the United States. Scholars must intend to complete a bachelor's degree, and those starting at a two-year college must be on a path to earning a bachelor's degree. Daniels Scholarships may not be used at technical or trade schools, or for participation in certificate programs.

#### What does the scholarship cover?

The Daniels Scholarship is a college scholarship that pays toward the costs of:

- Tuition and fees
- Books and supplies
- Room and board
- Miscellaneous educational expenses

The Daniels Scholarship Program provides a four-year college scholarship that is unique to each student and varies depending on their Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and their choice of school and degree program. The scholarship pays up to \$25,000 per year toward the student's unmet need, after applying their EFC, earnings assessment, other scholarships, grants, and financial aid. The Daniels Scholarship may be used to attend any accredited college or university in the United States.

Daniels Scholarships are renewable up to a maximum of four academic years (8 semesters or 12 quarters) if scholars meet all requirements of the Daniels Scholarship Program.

## What are the benefits of the scholarship?

The Daniels Scholarship can cover most of the costs of earning a bachelor's degree, depending on factors such as the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC), other scholarships, and financial aid, as well as their choice of school and degree program:

- Financial assistance toward a four-year undergraduate degree
- Dedicated help and support from Daniels Fund staff and designated on-campus contacts
- Recognition as a Daniels Scholar
- Campus communities with events, activities, and support exclusively for Daniels Scholars
- An alumni program offering ongoing support and a lifelong connection to a network of alumni and current scholars
- A new laptop computer

#### What's required of Daniels Scholars?

- Fulfill all scholarship requirements and submit required documents to renew the scholarship at the end of each academic term
- Remain on track to graduate with a bachelor's degree within four academic years
- Maintain academic performance, including a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Maintain regular communication with the Daniels Fund
- Adhere to the Daniels Scholar Code of Conduct
- Attend and participate in the Daniels Fund's new scholar orientation conference held in June

#### Once I apply, what happens next?

Applications and recommendations must be submitted online through the Daniels Fund website by the deadline.

The Daniels Fund will ask applicants to upload a copy of their Student Aid Report (SAR) in December if more financial verification is necessary.



In January, all applicants will be notified whether or not they have been selected as a finalist. The next step for finalists is a personal interview conducted by local community leaders in February or early March. The new class of Daniels Scholars is announced in late March.

