



TOFA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 1, 2024

PROGRAM GOALS

To'utupu 'oe 'Otu Felenite Association (TOFA) provides scholarships to support and encourage Pacific Islanders to further their education. The Education Scholarships will be awarded based on the availability of funds to students who will be attending college during the 2024-2025 academic year. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.

TOFA does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national and ethnic origin, or disability. In support of TOFA's mission and goals, TOFA encourages students of Pacific Islander ancestry to apply for the scholarship.

Applicant Eligibility

All student applicants must meet the following criteria:

- A permanent resident in California
- Currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university.
- High school seniors are eligible to apply. High School students must provide proof of college enrollment.
- Must possess a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.75
- Provide two letters of recommendation from two separate individuals not related to the applicant.
- Must demonstrate commitment to the Pacific Island community in a written personal statement

Selection of Scholarship Recipients

The TOFA scholarship Selection Committee will make awards based on the recipient having demonstrated their commitment to the Pacific Island community, academic achievements, career goals, civic activities, and leadership skills. All applicants will be notified by email of the status of their application by **July 31, 2024**, regardless of outcome.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Current Street Address: _____
Street City State/Zip Code

Contact Information: _____
Phone Number Email Address

Alternate or Emergency Contact: _____
Name Relationship Contact Info

Mailing Address: _____
(If different from above) Street City State/Zip Code

EDUCATION INFORMATION

Applicant Birth Year: _____ High School Graduation Year: _____

College/University attending or enrolled: _____
Name Location

Intended major/field of study: _____ Degree seeking: _____

Current year of college/university: _____ Expected graduation date: _____

Overall G.P.A. (unweighted) _____

Ethnicity/Race/Background: _____
(Ex: Tongan, Samoan, Fijian, Mixed Race, etc.)

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please tell us about yourself in 500 words or less. What are your goals, interests, skills/talents, life experiences, challenges, perspectives, cultures? How do you contribute to your local community? Be specific.

ESSAY

Please provide a written statement of no more than 2 pages or less addressing each topic below. Add your name and the name of your school at the top of each page. Use preferred Times New Roman or Arial font, 12-points in size throughout your statement.

- Tell us about any contributions you have made to your community in the areas of diversity, leadership, and service? Please describe what value or meaning did it have for you.
- Please describe any academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, or work you are proud of and why?
- Please describe your career and/or educational goals.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please submit two letters of recommendation that have been written within the last six (6) months or less. The letters must clearly refer to you by name and provide comments that describe your character and abilities. A parent or close relative will not be considered a valid reference. The name, occupation, and contact information for each author must appear on the letters.

CERTIFICATIONS

- I understand that a late or incomplete application will not be considered. My ability to accurately follow instructions will be considered during the selection process.
- I understand that if I am a recipient of a TOFA Scholarship that I am required to attend the TOFA Scholarship award event in-person on **Saturday, September 14, 2024** (*time to be determined*). If I am not able to attend in-person or via Zoom, I will have a representative to accept the award in-person on my behalf. If a representative cannot attend in person on my behalf, the scholarship may be forfeited.
- I commit to helping to get the word out and encourage others to apply for the TOFA Scholarship.
- I certify that I am currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate college student at an accredited community college, college, or university.
- I certify that if I am a high school senior, I have provided proof of enrollment to an accredited college or university.
- I hereby authorize TOFA to utilize information on my application and any photos that I provide for publicity or public relations purposes.
- I certify that all of my information on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and that I will forfeit my award if any information that I provide is found to be deliberately false, inaccurate, or misleading.

Name of Applicant (Print)

Signature

Date

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Before you turn in your application make sure you check all items of this list off:

- Applicant eligibility marked off and information page completed (pages 1-2).
- Original signed application form (page 3).
- Proof of enrollment to an accredited college or University acceptance letter (for high school seniors).
- Most current official transcripts showing current GPA.
- Biography (500 words or less)
- Essay (2 page maximum)
- Two (2) letters of recommendation. Letters sent via email must come directly from the preparers.
- Portrait business attire color photo (head shot) 2 inches square and 300 dpi (600 pixels square). The photos will not be provided to the Selection Committee or used as a basis for selecting awards. *Your photo will be used strictly for publicity purposes.*
- Submit application, Recommendation Letters, documents, and photo electronically to scholarships@tofainc.org.
- Official transcripts must be mailed** to: Attn: TOFA Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 221052, Sacramento, CA 95822.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application and materials must be postmarked by Friday, June 30, 2024. An incomplete application will not be considered.

TOFA strives to effectively promote the scholarship program. Please let us know how you heard about our program by checking one of the following:

- College/University
- TOFA website
- Press Release
- Social Network
- Relative/Friend
- Community Organization
Name of Organization: _____
- Social Media Platform: _____
- Other: _____

If you have questions, please contact TOFA Scholarship Chair Eliza Cocker at eliza@tofainc.org or scholarships@tofainc.org .

Thank you for your interest in the TOFA Scholarship program.

