

AMBUCS Scholars

Scholarships for Therapists

CHAPTER INFORMATION

New: All AMBUCS chapters are invited to sponsor one (1) student for the Scholarships for Therapists Program. Please limit additional chapter sponsorships to no more than three (3) sponsorships for every \$600 your chapter donates to the Scholarships for Therapists fund.

Students must submit an online application to AMBUCS Resource Center by **May 7, 2021**.

All chapter-sponsored students will be considered for an award by the Scholarships for Therapists Committee. Please note the eligibility requirements and the scholarship process have changed. Changes include:

- 1) The application is now exclusively open to graduate or doctorate level students.
- 2) At the time of completing the online application, students must submit all supporting documents, which are detailed below.

Chapter- Sponsored

A student is officially chapter-sponsored when the AMBUCS Resource Center receives a copy of [the Chapter Sponsored Scholarship Form](#). You can either submit the form or provide your student a copy to include with his/her online application. This form must be received by the close of the application cycle: **May 14, 2021**.

Note: Even chapter-sponsored students will not be considered for an award unless they submit the application and all supporting materials before the deadline. They must also meet the eligibility requirements. Students must be U.S. citizens and enrolled in at least a graduate-level program, pursuing degrees in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, or audiology. Keep in mind, the Scholarships for Therapists Committee is given the following criteria by which to judge each student: financial need, commitment to local community, character for compassion, and career objectives.

As part of the online application, students must include:

- Proof of their enrollment or acceptance into an accredited program
- A Personal Statement
- Student Aid Report (**SAR**) for the current school year. Students receive a SAR when they submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Why would your chapter want to sponsor a student?

Not only does this further the AMBUCS mission and help your chapter make a direct connection with a local student, but all the professions continue to report the shortage of clinical practitioners. According to the Department of Labor **Bureau of Labor Statistics**, the employment rate of therapists is expected to grow at much higher than average rates between 2012 and 2022: audiologists (34%), occupational therapists (29%), physical therapists (36%), and speech-language pathologists (19%).

"Academic programs often cite insufficient available funding for students as having a major to moderate impact on their ability to enroll more students in graduate programs for these professions." Said Loretta Nunez, Director of Academic Affairs & Research Education, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. AMBUCS is proud to help make therapeutic professions open to students from all backgrounds and income levels.

How to Sponsor a Student

If your chapter would like to sponsor a student, and you already have one (or some) in mind just fill out the Chapter-Sponsored Scholarship Form for each sponsored student and return it to the Resource Center by May 14.

Your chapter may choose your sponsored students by whatever method works for you. You may want to ask the student to provide the three documents above to the chapter as part of your screening process.

Screening Tips: The SAR is a little intimidating to look at but really you only need to look at the EFC # (Expected Family Contribution) on the first page. An EFC of all zeros means the student's need is considered exceptionally high. Some other areas you may want to consider are how many loans the student currently has as well as their overall income.

If you don't have any leads, you could reach out to local universities that boast a therapy program. Or you can request more information about our current applicants. If you have a more specific request, contact Rachel McAuley at rachelm@ambucs.org or 1-800-838-1845 x115.

Timeline for Chapters

February 12, 2021 (at 5:00 pm) – May 7, 2021

Deadline for all student applications

Student online applications are accepted via www.ambucs.org.

All chapter sponsorship forms are also due into the AMBUCS Resource Center (May 14).

April 2021

ARC staff will reach out to each chapter to confirm their list of sponsored students.

Named Scholarship donors will be asked to update their giving criteria, if desired.

May 31, 2021

Deadline for donations to the Scholarships for Therapists Program. Gifts received by this date will count towards your chapter's giving credit and will be awarded in the 2021-2022 academic year.

June 22-24, 2021

Scholarship Committee meets to award scholarships.

Early July 2021

Students, chapters and Named Scholarship donors will be notified by email.

Recipients will be published on the website.