



Multicultural Academic and Support Services

Application Materials for

2018-2019

DIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR TRANSFERS (DEST)*

IMPORTANT: Retain a copy for your records after completing application

**Deadline for application materials July 12, 2018
Multicultural Academic & Support Services**

The Diversity Enhancement Scholarship for Transfers (DEST) is a competitive scholarship program for qualified Florida residents, which is awarded on the basis of financial need, academic merit, both need/merit, and other selection criteria - namely, past academic achievement, quality of personal statement regarding declared major, and strength of references. Preference is given to students from diverse populations that traditionally have been underrepresented on our campus, including but not limited to racial/ethnic backgrounds, first-generation status (neither parent graduated from college), low-income (as determined by Federal guidelines used by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid), as well as those students who bring unique life experiences and backgrounds and have a strong commitment to diversity. You must adhere to the following application guidelines in order to qualify for consideration. ***The program gives priority to students who declare a major in one of the STEM disciplines: fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.**

All Students

Need-based applicants must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average on all postsecondary credits.

Merit and need/merit-based applicants must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average on all postsecondary credits.

In order to demonstrate financial need, all need-based and need/merit-based applicants must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form or a Renewal FAFSA, transmitted appropriately as indicated in the FAFSA instructions. To receive full consideration for the DEST, the FAFSA.

* This program is contingent upon continued annual support by the State of Florida.

Initial Applicants Must:

- ❖ Complete an A.A. or A.S. degree from an accredited Florida Community College or State College between December 2017 and August 2018.
- ❖ Gain admission as a degree-seeking student into the junior year at the University of Central Florida.
- ❖ Submit all materials by the application deadline.

Submit the following by **July 12, 2018**:

- ✓ A completed 2018-19 DEST application form.
- ✓ A current official (not a photocopy) transcript must be **U.S. mailed, in paper form, directly from the applicant's Florida community college or state college to: MASS, 12715 Pegasus Drive, Student Union, room 154, Orlando, FL 32816** *The program will not accept electronic transcripts, transcripts that are hand delivered, or transcripts mailed by the applicant; no exceptions. (Note –summer graduates must submit a transcript by July 12, 2018. If you receive an award, you must submit a final transcript showing degree award in August 2018.)*
- ✓ A statement of no more than one double-spaced page describing declared major, why the major was chosen, career goals, and any other relevant information the applicant would like to include. This statement must be prepared in Word format and emailed with the application.
- ✓ Two letters of reference. References from **applicant's college professors or academic advisors, must be emailed from their username@that.institution. If letters must be mailed, preparation on college letterhead is required.** The letter must address applicant's academic success and potential. *The program will not consider letters written by personal supporters such as family, friends, or high school teachers, etc.* The letters must include name, title, address and phone number of the writer.

Application Procedure

Complete the application.

Notification

The program will notify all applicants of their status as DEST recipients, alternate award candidates, or students who were not selected. The notifications will be provided by email to the name@knights.ucf.edu email address specified on the DEST application form. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify UCF Multicultural Academic & Support Services of any changes to the permanent address or knights.ucf.edu email address. Applicants who have not received notification by July 2, 2018 are invited to email the office (mass@ucf.edu) to check their status.

After Selection, Recipients Must

- ❖ Complete and return the acceptance form by the date specified on the award notification letter. Failure to return the acceptance form by the specified date will result in forfeiture of the award. Applicants who do not receive an email acknowledging receipt of their acceptance form within seven days are responsible for notifying UCF MASS dept immediately to prevent forfeiture.
- ❖ Earn a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours each semester.
- ❖ Adhere to minimum grade point average requirements (see need, merit and need/merit specifications).
- ❖ Apply for renewal consideration prior to the application deadline for each academic year in which the award is desired. DEST recipients may qualify for the award for up to six (6) semesters of undergraduate enrollment.

Award Payment

After verification of enrollment, the university will disburse the award on a prorated basis each academic term to eligible DEST recipients. Half of the award will be issued in the Fall and the other half will be issued in the Spring semester, usually by week 4 of the term.

**Check the status of your application via mass@ucf.edu
For additional information, refer to www.mass.sdes.ucf.edu**

Ethnicity: _____Hispanic/Latino_____Non-Hispanic/Latino

Race (select one or more): _____American Indian or Alaskan Native _____Asian
_____Black or African-American_____Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander_____White

Citizenship Status (check one)

_____I am a U.S. Citizen

_____I am a permanent resident alien

_____I am a non-U.S. citizen or non-permanent resident alien and possess the following
Category of visa (check the one that applies)

_____B_____C_____D_____F_____J_____L_____M

If you checked any of the visa categories above, you are not eligible for this scholarship

I certify that I have read and understood the conditions for participation in this program. The information I am supplying in this application is true, complete, and correct. To the best of my knowledge and belief, I am eligible for this program as defined under Florida law.

Name

_____/_____/_____
Date