Fairmont Dollars for Scholars

Application Process 2020

DEADLINE – April 1, 2020

Dollars for Scholars applications will now need to be done electronically.

**Process for Applying for the first time:**

Website is [www.fairmont.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.fairmont.dollarsforscholars.org)

1)  Go to Students & Parents in upper left hand corner

2)  Click to Login

3)  Complete your Login & Password (we recommend using an email address you check often that is NOT your apps.fairmont email address. You can apply and receive up to four awards from us, so we need to communicate with you after you graduate.)

3)  Complete your Profile

4)  Complete all areas under the My Information column.

* GPA- FHS uses a weighted Cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale. Make sure you DO NOT enter your GPA into the section that asks for the high school or college GPA SCALE.
* GPA-Students DO NOT need to enter Grade 9, 10, 11 & 12GPA data.  Students only need to enter their cumulative GPA and college GPA if a current college student.
* Test Scores – Be sure to enter your ACT composite scores.
* Class Rank –FHS calculates Class Rank with “integers” not percentages.
* Activities – complete as thoroughly as you can.

High School Students - Activities would be from grades 8-12

College Students – Use College Activities & High School Activities for the most recent four years

* + Enter Name and Activity
		- I.e. Activity Name: Basketball, Activity: Basketball
	+ Activity Description
		- Enter as thoroughly as you can, include information like Letter winner, Captain, All State, Special Recognitions (MVP, Hustle award)
	+ Total Hours spent on this activity per year:
		- Estimate the number of hours spent in this activity
			* I.e. 180 hours/year for Basketball
* Parent and Financial Information – We use FAFSA EFC (estimated family contribution)
	+ Students/parents can enter their EFC from their student aid report which is received after completing the FAFSA. Please provide a hard copy of the first page of your student aid  report by either uploading it into “additional documents” or emailing to fairmontdollars@gmail.com.

**\*\* Dollars for Scholars highly recommends that you complete the FAFSA and enter your EFC into your application. However, as of 2019, it will no longer be a required field. Many of our scholarships are need-based so it is to your advantage to complete the FAFSA part.**

* Transcripts--High School Students – send transcript request to

 Mary Granheim

 mgranheim@fairmont.k12.mn.us

 507-238-4411

* College Students – you can upload a copy of your up-to-date transcript including your cumulative GPA or you can request a transcript from the registrar’s office at your college. Make sure to name the uploaded file "additional transcript" so the system recognizes it. The transcript does NOT have to be official. It should be in a universal file type like .jpg or .doc.
* References: ask your reference first if they are willing to fill out the form. Then make sure you have their correct email address entered. Your reference may need to check the junk email folder for the email.
* Essays:
	+ Unusual Circumstances is optional. If you have not had any circumstances that negatively impacted your school, work, or activities, you can leave this blank.
	+ Goals and Aspirations: Be sure to complete this section. There is no length requirement. You just need to write enough to be thorough. Be specific about your goals and aspirations in the one to ten year range, especially.

5)   When you have completed the **My Information** section, you MUST click on **My Scholarships AND SUBMIT your name to the awards to which you want to apply**.

* + Answer the Custom Eligibility Questions & Submit
	+ This will bring you to a screen that shows which scholarships you are eligible for.
	+ We recommend applying to all scholarships you are eligible for.
		1. **Refer back to My Scholarships frequently as new scholarships are added which you may be eligible for. IF YOU DO NOT click on "my scholarships" and if you do NOT submit your application to those scholarships, we CANNOT consider you for a scholarship!**

Dollars for Scholars is offering a workshop on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school media center.  This workshop will help you navigate the application process so you receive the most points possible for your aspirations, activities and academics.  If you have not yet created a partial student profile on fairmont.dollarsforscholars.org before this event, make sure you have the needed information to access an email account during the class (such as email web address and password) as you will need to verify your new student profile before working on it.  This class is for Fairmont Area High School juniors, seniors or graduates who plan on completing a Fairmont Dollars for Scholars application.

**For returning applicants:**

You do not need to enter all of the information you did last year; the system has kept a record of everything. However, you do need to update information. Be sure to update:

* Your school and highest grade completed information, address, email, phone
* Financial information. Students/parents can enter their EFC from their student aid report which is received after completing the FAFSA.  Please provide a hard copy of the first page of your student aid  report by either uploaded into “additional documents” or emailing a copy to fairmontdollars@gmail.com.
* Transcripts—upload your most current grades AND update your GPA in the scholastic performance section. Make sure to name the uploaded file "additional transcript" so the system recognizes it. It does NOT need to be an official transcript. Make sure your ACT composite score is entered.
* References—make sure you have their address correct; they may need to check their junk email folder
* Essays-
	+ Unusual circumstances: Be sure to complete this section. Be thorough as your points are based on your response. If you have not had any circumstances that negatively impacted your school, work, or activities, you can leave this blank.
	+ Re-read your goals and aspirations. Has anything changed?
* Your grade level
* Any new activities from the past 12 months.