

Helpful Hints for Scholarship Reimbursement

The documents included in this packet are intended to provide Supported Organizations with guidance and additional information for the following scholar eligibility requirements:

- 1. Residency
- 2. Financial Need
- 3. Satisfactory Academic Progress

If you have any questions or barriers to completing your scholarship reimbursement request, please contact us at 720-710-3272 or help@prosperitydenverfund.org.

You may also visit our website for frequently asked questions about scholar eligibility requirements:

https://www.prosperitydenverfund.org/frequently-asked-questions/



Helpful Hints: Residency Verification

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for Supported Organizations to confirm that their scholars meet the residency requirement to receive reimbursement funding from Prosperity Denver Fund (PDF).

What is the residency requirement?

To be eligible for reimbursement from PDF, scholars must have resided in the City and County of Denver for six (6) months continuously in the academic year prior to the first day of their postsecondary class or, if under the age of 26, have graduated from a high school in Denver.

What residency information do supported organizations have to report?

You must submit residency information to PDF only once for each scholar, for the first academic year for which you are requesting reimbursement.

You must provide at least one of the following:

- 1. High school graduation information, including dates attended (for scholars under the age of 26)
- 2. Six months of residential address information, including dates resided at the address(es) (for scholars between 26 and 30 years of age)

Important: If under the age of 26, a student must have graduated from a high school in Denver or lived in Denver for six months prior to their first scheduled postsecondary class day; and if between 26 and 30 years of age, a student must have lived in Denver for six months prior to their first scheduled postsecondary class day.

How do I verify an address is within the City and County of Denver?

Scholars must have resided in the City <u>and</u> County of Denver to be eligible for reimbursement. It is important to note that an address with Denver as the city does not necessarily mean they also live in the county.

The Denver Assessor's Office has an online map tool where you can verify if an address is within the city and county limits: https://www.denvergov.org/Maps/map/property

Through the link above, simply type the scholar's street address into the search box at the top of the page, then click "Search".

- If the address is within the City and County of Denver, the search will return with a property record.
- If the address is <u>not</u> within the City and County of Denver, the search will return with "No parcels found at this location" or "No map available for this property".

Additional Resource

PDF has an additional resource available for supported organizations for residency data collection: **Denver Residency Affidavit.** The affidavit is an <u>optional</u> resource and is <u>not</u> required to be used by supported organizations.

The purpose of the affidavit is to assist supported organizations with collecting Denver address information from their scholars, particularly if this is not a typical piece of information collected. PDF will not collect the affidavit from supported organizations but Supported Organizations may use the information provided by scholars to complete their scholarship reimbursement template.

The Denver Residency Affidavit can be found <u>here</u>.



Helpful Hints: Financial Need

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for supported organizations to confirm that their scholars meet the financial need requirement to receive reimbursement funding from Prosperity Denver Fund (PDF).

What is the financial need requirement?

Scholars' expected family contribution (EFC) may not exceed 250% of the maximum EFC to qualify for a Federal Pell Grant for their first academic year of post-secondary education. EFC is obtained by completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Please see the table in the following section for specific information on the qualifying EFC amounts for each academic year.

What are the qualifying EFC amounts?

The EFC limit for the Federal Pell Grant typically changes for each academic year.

The table below outlines EFC ranges that would qualify for PDF reimbursement, with the lowest EFC amount to the far left and the maximum EFC amount to the far right for each academic year. The column headers indicate the EFC range you will select in your scholarship reimbursement request, based on the scholars' EFC for their first year of college.

EFC RANGE					
		At or below Pell Grant eligibility limit	Between Pell -150% Pell Grant eligibility	Between 150-200% Pell Grant eligibility	Between 200-250% Pell Grant eligibility
	2023-2024	0-6656	6657 - 9984	9985 - 13314	13315 - 16640
	2022-2023	0-6206	6207-9309	9310-12412	12413-15515
	2021-2022	0-5846	5847-8769	8770-11692	11693-14615
	2020-2021	0-5711	5712-8566	8567-11422	11423-14277
	2019-2020	0-5576	5577-8364	8365-11152	11153-13940

What if my scholar has not completed a FAFSA or is not eligible to complete a FAFSA?

PDF has approved alternative financial need measures that may be used to determine scholar eligibility for reimbursement.

What alternative financial need measures are approved by PDF?

PDF has approved the following alternative financial need measures:

- 1. Eligibility for any of the following public benefits:
 - Free and Reduced-Price Lunch
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Benefits
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits
 - Medicaid
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Disability Benefits
 - HUD Housing Choice (Section 8 Housing) Vouchers
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Benefits
- 2. A household income that is too low to require a Federal Income Tax Filing
- 3. A total household annual income at or below these guidelines:

Household Size	Annual Household Income		
1	\$43,740		
2	\$59,160		
3	\$74,580		
4	\$90,000		
5	\$105,420		
6	\$120,840		
7	\$136,260		
8	\$151,680		
For each additional person, add:	\$5,140		

What financial need information do Supported Organizations have to report for reimbursement?

PDF requires you to submit information regarding which financial need measure was used, but you will not be required to submit supporting documentation.

If EFC is the financial need measure, you will submit the range each scholar's EFC falls in, according to the table above. If an alternative financial need measure is used, you must specify the measure.

You must submit financial need measure information to PDF only once for each scholar, for the first academic year in which you are requesting reimbursement for that scholar.

Additional Resource

PDF has an additional resource available for supported organizations for financial need data collection: **Financial Need Affidavit.** The affidavit is an <u>optional</u> resource and is <u>not</u> required to be used by Supported Organizations.

The purpose of the affidavit is to assist supported organizations with collecting Denver scholar financial need information, particularly if this is not a typical piece of information collected. PDF will not collect the affidavit from supported organizations but Supported Organizations may use the information provided by scholars to complete their scholarship reimbursement submission.

The Financial Need Affidavit can be found here.



Helpful Hints: Satisfactory Academic Progress

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for Supported Organizations to confirm that their scholars meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress requirement to receive reimbursement funding from Prosperity Denver Fund.

What is the Satisfactory Academic Progress requirement?

Scholars must have met Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as defined by their specific postsecondary institution, for the academic year being reimbursed. You must submit this information to PDF annually for each scholar for whom you are requesting reimbursement.

What is Satisfactory Academic Progress?

Per federal regulations, students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to remain eligible for federal student aid. SAP considers both grade point average and progress towards completing enough coursework to graduate within a specified period.

Each post-secondary institution has its own SAP policy and standards. The Federal Student Aid Office has outlined what can be found in SAP policies here:

https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/staying-eligible#satisfactory-academic progress

How can your scholars demonstrate that they are meeting their college's Satisfactory Academic Progress standard?

- 1. You may request from your scholars an official letter, statement, or form from their postsecondary institution for confirmation of Satisfactory Academic Progress. They might be able to obtain this from their institution's financial aid office or registrar's office.
- 2. If the institution provides a form for confirmation of SAP standing, the scholar may provide that completed form to you.
- 3. If the scholar provides you with a copy of their official transcript for the prior academic year, you may be able to determine their Satisfactory Academic Progress standing using the guidelines provided on the institution's website. This option is less reliable than direct confirmation of SAP standing from their institution, so should be used only if the other options are unavailable.