American Association of
Colleges of Pharmacy **AACP**

Walmart ✱

2023 Walmart Health Equity Scholarship for Pharmacy Students

Program Information and
Application Instructions

Deadline: *September 15, at 11:59 p.m. Hawaii Time (HT)*

Table of Contents

2023 Walmart Health Equity Scholarship for Pharmacy Students

THE PROGRAM

Description

The Walmart Health Equity Scholarship for Pharmacy Students will be awarded to seven (7) outstanding Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree students who are accepted or enrolled in the professional curriculum at a U.S. college or school of pharmacy. Selected awardees must demonstrate leadership, academic success, and a commitment to serving rural or medically underserved patient populations. Each awardee will receive **a single $5,000 scholarship**.

Goal of the Program

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) and Walmart are committed to promoting education and healthcare access to improve health for all. The Walmart Health Equity Scholarship for Pharmacy Students will support the financial need of students enrolled in Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree programs who plan to serve in rural areas, medically underserved areas or populations (MUA/Ps), or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) upon graduation. The goal of the scholarship program is to promote and support a diverse population of student pharmacists who will advance health equity.

Eligibility Requirements

Scholarship applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Eligible student statuses during the 2023 Program:
  - Accepted into a professional Pharm.D. program for the 2023 entering class,
  - Enrolled as a P1, P2, or P3 Pharm.D. student in a 4-year program,
  - Enrolled as a P1 or P2 Pharm.D. student in an accelerated 3-year program, OR
  - Enrolled as a P2 through P5 (out of P6) student in a 0-6/7 program.
- Students must demonstrate leadership, academic success, and a commitment to serving rural, medically underserved areas or populations (MUA/Ps), or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) upon graduation from a Pharm.D. degree program.
- Only US citizens and permanent US residents are eligible.
- Students must be in good standing at their current (or most recent) institution at the time of application.
- Students must submit a completed application by the deadline.
- If a scholarship is awarded to an accepted (not yet enrolled) pharmacy student, the award will be granted to the institution after the individual has started classes in the Pharm.D. program. These students will be ineligible to apply for this scholarship again in the future.
- Students who will graduate from a Pharm.D. program in 2023 are NOT eligible for the scholarship.

Scholarship Notification

1. Completed applications are due by September 15, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Hawaii Time (HT)
2. Scholarship recipients will be notified by November 16, 2023**.**
3. Funds will be forwarded to the student's institution by December 2023.
4. AACP will announce the scholarship recipients on the *AACP* and *Pharmacy Is Right for Me* websites and social media.

5. Walmart may also release related announcements about the scholarship recipients via the company's communication channels.

Scholarships Payments

A single scholarship in the amount of $5,000 each will be awarded to each scholarship recipient. AACP will pay the scholarship funds for each awardee directly to the pharmacy college or school where the student is enrolled. Funds will be dispersed by December 2023 after the awardee's initial or ongoing enrollment in a Pharm.D. program at the college or school of pharmacy is confirmed. Each institution will exclusively apply the scholarship funds to the awardee's tuition and/or fees.

Scholarships Questions

Please contact AACP at walmart@aacp.org with questions.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Application Deadline

Applications are due by September 15, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Hawaii Time (HT)

Application Basics

Access the scholarship application online at:
https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=UOWLYNOO

- **Create Account**
    - Select the Join Now button under New Users to begin your application.
- **Account Profile**
    - Enter your contact information.
    - Under the professional information header, enter your position as "student" and enter your institution and credentials, if any (e.g., BS).
    - Type an access key (password) that you will use to access your submission information in the future. The access key must be at least 8 characters long and contain a character from three of the following character sets: uppercase letter, lowercase letter, number, or non-alphanumeric character.
    - Click Create Account.
- **Privacy Notice**
    - Review the standard privacy notice.
    - Check the Consent box and type your name into the e-signature line.
    - Click the Continue button.
- **Application Home Screen**
    - Carefully read the instructions.
    - Scroll down to the Click here to begin a new application.

- **Start a New Application**
  - Enter your first and last name exactly as entered on the Account Profile page and click Submit.

Application Sections

Please click on each task to enter the requested information. Once completed, the task will then appear with a large green check mark. After you have completed all of the tasks below, select "Save Application."

Task 1: Applicant Information

The following fields are included in this section:

- **Current Street Address**

- **Email**

- **Preferred Phone Number**

- **Gender Identity**

- **Residency**
  - Only US citizens and permanent US residents are eligible.

- **College or School of Pharmacy**
  - If you are currently an applicant and have not yet decided where you will enroll, please choose "Undecided." See also the "Scholarship Payment" section for enrollment requirements.

- **Academic Status**
  - Eligible student statuses during the 2022-2023 Academic Year:
    - Accepted into a professional Pharm.D. program for the 2023 entering class,
    - Enrolled as a P1, P2, or P3 Pharm.D. student in a 4-year program,
    - Enrolled as a P1 or P2 Pharm.D. student in an accelerated 3-year program, OR
    - Enrolled as a P2 through P5 (out of P6) student in a 0-6/7 program.

- **Academic Standing**
  - Students must affirm they are in good academic standing at their current (or most recent) institution at the time of application.
  - The definition of good academic standing varies by institution, but typically means that the student's cumulative (overall) and current (most recent term) grade point averages (GPAs) are 2.0 or better.
  - If you are a current Pharm.D. student, affirm you are in good academic standing at your current college or school of pharmacy.
  - If you are an accepted pharmacy applicant, affirm you are in good academic standing at your current institution.
  - If you are an accepted pharmacy applicant and not currently enrolled at any institution, affirm you were in good academic standing at your most recent institution.

- **Languages**
  - Please list all languages in which you are conversationally fluent.

- **Educational or Environmental Disadvantaged Status**

- o Check if any of the following apply to you. By designating any of the items below, you are considered to be educationally and/or environmentally disadvantaged. This information will be used for aggregate reporting purposes only and not considered in the application review process.

  - ☐ I graduated from a high school from which a low percentage of seniors receive a high school diploma.
  - ☐ I graduated from a high school at which many of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches.
  - ☐ I am from a family that receives public assistance (e.g., Aid to Families with Dependent Children, food stamps, Medicaid, public housing) or I receive public assistance.
  - ☐ I am from a family that lives in an area that is designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area or a Medically Underserved Area.
  - ☐ I participated in an academic enrichment program funded in whole or in part by the Health Careers Opportunity Program.
  - ☐ I am from a school district where 50% or less of graduates go to college or where college education is not encouraged.
  - ☐ I am the first generation in my family to attend college (neither my mother nor my father attended college).
  - ☐ English is not my primary language.

- **Economic Disadvantaged Status**
  - o Does your parent's family income fall within the table's guidelines for economically disadvantaged?
  - o This information will be used for aggregate reporting purposes only and not considered in the application review process.
  - o View the low-income level table on the PharmCAS fee waiver page to determine if you are considered economically disadvantaged.
- **GPA for Undergraduate or Pharm.D. Program to Date**
  - o Enter your GPA for your current degree program (undergraduate or Pharm.D). To be eligible for consideration, GPA must be 2.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale. Please enter "N/A" if your school uses a grading scale besides 4.0 (i.e., Pass/Fail).
  - o Applicants from schools with other grading systems are still eligible to apply for the scholarship. Please email walmart@aacp.org, if this situation applies to you.

Task 2: Race/Ethnicity Information

Identify the groups in which you consider yourself to be a member.

Task 3: Academic Standing Verification Upload

Upload an unofficial copy of your most recent transcript as a single PDF. To be eligible for consideration, GPA must be 2.0 or greater on a 4.0 scale. Your unofficial transcript will only be used to determine eligibility and not otherwise considered in the review process.

Applicants from schools with other grading systems are still eligible to apply for the scholarship. If you attend an institution with a non-standard grading system, upload a PDF copy of your transcript with the grading system description included. The grading system can usually be found on the back of the transcript.

Please email walmart@aacp.org, if you have additional questions regarding the academic standing verification process.

Task 4: Applicant Resume Upload

Your resume is a very important part of your scholarship application. It will be used to help differentiate your application from others and allow you to showcase your academic, extracurricular, and employment

experiences, including those in support of rural areas, MUA/Ps, and/or HPSAs. Review the requirements below before you upload your resume.

- Save and submit your resume as a PDF.
- Limit resume to no more than 2 pages.
- If you use any acronyms, also provide the full name.
- Use headers and/or section titles to organize your resume.
- Briefly describe any leadership roles and/or involvement.
- Include length of time spent at each organization and in each leadership role.

Task 5: Applicant Essay

You are strongly encouraged to compose your essay in a separate word processor, then copy and paste as plain text into the text box. Use line breaks (the return key) to separate paragraphs. Please do NOT insert hyperlinks or other formatting. Limit essay to 750 words.

Describe how your life experiences influenced your decision to pursue a pharmacy career and desire to serve in rural areas, medically underserved areas or populations (MUA/Ps), or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). Include any key volunteer, extracurricular, employment, or academic experiences that solidified and/or demonstrate your commitment to these communities. Describe how you envision contributing to health equity as a pharmacist in these communities.
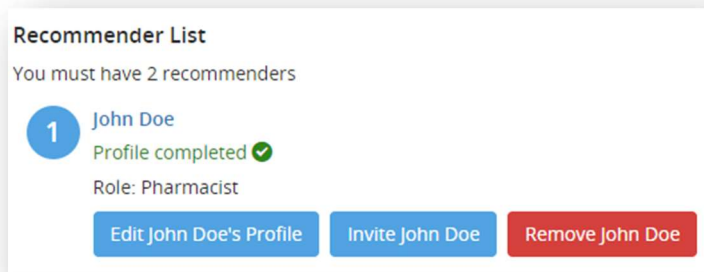
Task 6: Recommender Profiles

Two recommendations are required for the scholarship application. Each recommender should be able to describe your attributes, (1) how you will contribute to a successful career in pharmacy and (2) your interest or commitment to serving in rural areas, medically underserved areas or populations (MUA/Ps), or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). Contact each recommender in advance, so they know to expect an email from this program.

- **Recommendation #1: Faculty Member**
    - Invite a faculty member to submit a recommendation on your behalf who can describe your attributes, how you will contribute to a successful career in pharmacy, and your interest or commitment to serving in rural areas, MUA/Ps, or HPSAs.
    - Recommendations from faculty in undergraduate (community college and four-year institution), graduate, Pharm.D., and other professional programs are accepted.
    - Pharmacy and science faculty are preferred.
    - Recommendations from non-teaching faculty and academic advisors are also acceptable.

- **Recommendation #2:**
    - Invite a second recommender who can describe your attributes, how you will contribute to a successful career in pharmacy, and your interest or commitment to serving in rural areas, MUA/Ps, or HPSAs.
    - Acceptable recommenders include, but are not limited to, pharmacists, other healthcare providers, employers, supervisors, faculty, staff, mentors, advisors, or colleagues in educational, volunteer, or paid settings.

- **Add a Recommender**
    - Enter the recommender's first name, last name, and email address.
    - Click the 'Add Recommender' button.

- **Invite Each Recommender:**
    - Click the "Invite" button for each recommender, once the profiles are complete.
    - Recommenders will then receive an automated email prompting them to complete a recommendation on your behalf.
    - See also the "Invite Recommender" section for status information.

- **Check the Status of a Recommender:**
  - You will receive a confirmation email when a recommender completes the Recommender Profile or submits a Recommendation.
  - See also the Invite Recommender section for status information.

- **Save and Submit your Application:**
  - Once each recommender completes the profile and recommendation, you must log back into your application to save and submit.

Task 7: Invite Recommenders

If not already done, click on the 'Invite' button next to your recommender's name. Once done, the recommender should receive an automated email with a custom link to the online recommendation form.

- Instruct your recommender to watch for an email from **doNotReply@abstractscorecard.com.**
- If the recommender does not receive the email, advise them to check their junk and spam email folders.
- Please allow your recommenders adequate time to complete the recommendation form before you re-invite them.
- Login and revisit this section to view the latest invite date and check on the status of your recommendations.

Once your recommenders have completed the recommendation form, you must click 'Complete Task' button on the Invite Recommenders screen.

Task 8: Applicant Certification

Please read and sign below.

By adding my name to the text box below, I certify that all the information and statements I have provided in this application are current, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. Your certification of this statement serves the same purpose as a legal signature.

- Please indicate your agreement by typing in your full name in the space provided.
- Click Submit Agreement.

See the next page for additional instructions.
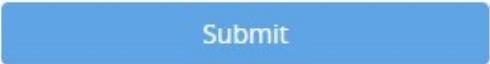
Submitting Your Application

Once each section of your application features a green check mark, you are ready to save and submit your application.

Be sure to click 'Save Application' at the bottom of your page.

Save Application

Once you have saved your application, a 'Submit' button will appear in the upper right-hand corner of your page. You will receive an automated email once your application has been submitted.

Submit

APPLICATION REVIEW

Review Overview

AACP staff will determine that all applications are complete and eligibility requirements have been met, such as good academic standing and student classification level. Once eligibility requirements are verified, the application will be moved through the evaluation process. An evaluation scale from zero to five or zero to ten is used for scoring each of the evaluation criterion, respectively.

Review Criteria

AACP and Walmart will use the following criteria by which all applications will be evaluated. The review team will look for well thought out, organized, articulate, and complete applications, with evidence that awardees demonstrate leadership, academic success, and a commitment to health equity and serving in rural areas, medically underserved areas or populations (MUA/Ps), or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).

Resume (weight factor = 25)
The applicant resume is used to determine the degree to which the student has demonstrated academic involvement and engagement both on and off campus, as well as the leadership ability shown through professional, educational, and extracurricular experiences.

- **Academic Engagement and Leadership (10 points possible)**
  - Participation in academic-related activities and clubs (5 points)
  - Leadership roles in academic organizations (5 points)

- **Extracurricular Commitment and Leadership (10 points possible)**
  - Participation in extracurricular activities (5 points)

- Leadership roles in extracurricular organizations (5 points)

- **Format (5 points possible)**
    - Spelling and grammar, formatting, clear headings and sections (5 points)

Scholarship Essay (weight factor = 35)

- Essay Content (30 points possible)
- Spelling and Grammar (5 points possible)

Recommendation #1 (weight factor = 20)

- Evidence of student's attributes
- Potential for student's success in pharmacy
- Commitment to health equity and serving in rural areas, MUA/Ps, or HPSAs

Recommendation #2 (weight factor = 20)

- Evidence of student's attributes
- Potential for student's success in pharmacy
- Commitment to health equity and serving in rural areas, MUA/Ps, or HPSAs