

Commuter-to-Campus Scholarship Program

<u>Introduction</u>: At Jacksonville University, we recognize being a commuter student can present challenges in balancing academic responsibilities, extracurricular activities, and personal commitments. As part of our commitment to student success and holistic support, we are pleased to introduce the Commuter-to-Campus Scholarship Program. This initiative, supported by the Division of Student Affairs, aims to provide a residential experience to commuter students who are completing their first year and are interested in transitioning to on-campus housing.

<u>Purpose:</u> The Commuter-to-Campus Scholarship Program is designed to alleviate the financial burden of housing expenses for deserving commuter students who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership potential, and a commitment to campus involvement. By offering on-campus housing scholarships, we aim to enhance their overall college experience, foster a sense of belonging, and promote student retention and success.

Eligibility Criteria:

- 1. Currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at Jacksonville University;
- 2. Completing the first year as a commuter student and willing to transition to on-campus housing;
- 3. Proven ability to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.3 or above;
- 4. Actively involved in campus activities, clubs, or organizations;
- 5. Demonstrate financial need as determined by Student Financial Services;
- 6. Ability to pay for the required Meal Plan associated with living on campus.

<u>Scholarship Benefit</u>: Full coverage of on-campus housing for up to six traditional fall/spring semesters: second year through anticipated graduation. This applies to housing in Residential Halls and excludes campus apartments. This does not apply to summer housing.

Application Process:

- 1. Interested students must submit a completed scholarship application form, including personal and academic information, extracurricular involvement, and a brief essay outlining their reasons for applying. This essay should include:
 - a. How on campus housing will contribute to their academic and personal success.
 - b. How they believe they will positively impact the residential community.
- 2. Additionally, applicants will be asked to submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty or staff member willing to affirm the applicant's involvement on campus and act as an ongoing mentor throughout their next 2 years on campus.
- 3. Applicants will need an up-to-date FAFSA on file at the time of application and are required to maintain updated financial information.

Selection Criteria: The selection committee will evaluate applicants based on the following criteria:

- 1. Academic achievement and demonstrated commitment to excellence;
- 2. Involvement in campus activities, leadership roles, or work on campus;
- 3. Financial need and the impact of on-campus housing.

<u>Deadline</u>: The deadline for scholarship applications is March 31st at 5pm. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Notification: Selected recipients will be notified via email and/or phone by April 2nd.

<u>Conclusion:</u> The Commuter-to-Campus Scholarship reflects Jacksonville University's dedication to supporting student success, fostering a vibrant campus community, and ensuring equitable access to educational opportunities. We encourage eligible commuter students to take advantage of this scholarship opportunity. For inquiries or further information, please contact Jenny Boyer, Executive Director of Student Enrichment & Development at <u>jboyer1@ju.edu</u>.