Think Big.
Work Hard.
Achieve.
Cooke College
Scholarship Program

Fall 2019
Program and Application Overview
Who are Cooke Scholars?

93% ATTEND
A highly competitive college or university

3.86 AVERAGE
Unweighted GPA during high school

83% GIVE BACK
Through civic or community service during high school
Program Experience

Receive up to $40,000 per year to attend a four-year college or university

Receive personalized advising about selecting a college, transitioning to college, and maximizing the college experience
Program Goals

- Attend the nation’s best four-year colleges and universities
- Gain the skills, networks, knowledge, and confidence to excel in college

- Connect with peers and mentors who support academic success and development of expertise
- Get prepared for post-graduate opportunities: career and/or graduate school
The educational adviser’s role includes:

- Conducting regular check-ins and making campus visits.
- Helping navigate campus resources.
- Helping connect to mentors, internships, and fellowship opportunities.
- Creating academic support plans.
- Supporting the graduate school application process.
Active Scholars Network

Cooke Scholars attend colleges and universities spanning the country and globe.

Each year, the Foundation hosts a Scholars Weekend event attended by approximately 300 Cooke Scholars.
Continuing Support

Eligible to apply for graduate school funding

Exposure to thriving network of Cooke Scholar alumni for college and career guidance
Eligibility

- Graduating from a U.S. high school in spring 2020
- Enrolling in a four-year college in fall 2020
- Cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.5 or above
- SAT score of 1200+ or ACT score of 26+
- Demonstrate unmet financial need
The Foundation expects Cooke Scholars to...

- Maintain a strong academic record through appropriately challenging course load
- Act with honesty and personal integrity
- Demonstrate character and leadership
- Be concerned about and engaged in your community
- Maintain a good disciplinary record
Common App

JKCF is a Common App member and will only be using Common App this year for our College Scholarship applications.
How to Apply

1. Add Jack Kent Cooke Foundation as one of your colleges in the Common App

2. Complete Cooke Foundation requirements just like colleges that have their requirements including the writing requirements

3. Add your Cooke Foundation Educational Adviser in Community-Based Organizations section of your app
Start An Application

Home page for sign-in to Common App

Common App sign-in page for first year students

*Please make sure that you apply with the same account as you are using for all colleges.
Add Jack Kent Cooke Foundation

Search “Jack Kent Cooke Foundation” under “College Search”

See Programs you’ve selected to apply to under “My Colleges”
Cooke Foundation Requirements

- Eligibility
- Finances
- Recommendations
- Contacts
- Family
- Activities and Honors
- College Plans
- Writing
- Waivers & Conditions
Cooke Foundation short essay questions (100 words)

1. The Cooke Scholar community is a thriving group of talented individuals from around the country. Click here to listen to some of our Scholars and alumni describe what the community means to them. What excites you about becoming part of this community? What do you think you will contribute to this community?

2. Our unofficial motto of the Cooke Foundation is “Think Big, Work Hard, Achieve.” Tell us how you demonstrate any of these characteristics in your life.

3. Select any extracurricular activity that you listed in your Common Application and describe a goal you set for yourself with this activity. What steps are you taking/have you taken toward reaching this goal?
Additional Writing Requirements

• Financial Circumstances
  Tell us about any special circumstances you would like the committee to consider when reviewing your Estimated Annual Income (e.g., business losses, extraordinary family medical expenses, expenses for disabled children).

• Please explain how you selected the four-year colleges/universities listed above. (3 total)

• Tell us about how you came to choose the major(s) and minor(s) listed above.

• What are your future career plans? If you are undecided, please explore one of your interests.
General Common App Resources

• How to Apply
• Common App FAQs
• Expert Tip Videos
• Top Tips
• Common App Essay Prompts
Key Dates

Application Opened:
Thursday, August 1, 2019

Application Closes:
Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Semifinalists announced:
January 2020

Recipients announced:
April 2020
Additional Help and Info

Questions about the Common App
appsupport.commonapp.org

Questions about the Program and Eligibility
www.jkcf.org/college

scholarships@jkcf.org
Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to submit official transcripts?
Yes, your high school counselor will submit official transcripts through Common App on your behalf.

Do I need to take both the SAT and the ACT to be eligible to apply?
No, you only need one or the other. A superscore of 1200 or higher on the SAT or a composite score of 26 or higher on the ACT.

Who can write a letter of recommendation for me?
We require one letter of recommendation from a teacher you had in an 11th grade core academic subject (English/language arts, mathematics, social studies/history, science, or foreign language). We require another letter from another academic you’ve worked closely with.

What if none of the colleges I’m applying to use Common App?
The Cooke College Scholarship can only be submitted through Common App. If you are applying to other colleges and universities through other application portals, you will still need to create an account and submit the application through Common App.
Frequently Asked Questions cont.

What if my annual family income is above $95,000 due to unusual circumstances?

What if my family didn’t file U.S. taxes for 2018, 2017, or 2016?
In the Finances section of the application, type in your estimated family income and then provide a brief explanation in the text box.

Do I need to be a U.S. citizen to apply?
No, you do not need to be a U.S. citizen to apply. We do not consider citizenship status in any of our scholarship applications.
Thank you!

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