

E. Eugene Carter Opportunity Scholarship Awards

What is the objective of the Carter Opportunity Scholarship Awards?

The main interest of the E. Eugene Carter Foundation is to encourage persistence to degree completion in undergraduate engineering.

How are the Opportunity Scholarships to be used?

Opportunity Scholarships are for the explicit purpose of repaying recipients' federal subsidized direct student loans. Upon a recipient's degree completion, the participating institution disburses funds to the lender, not to the student.

Who is eligible to receive Carter Opportunity Awards?

Hispanic females in engineering are eligible, with additional emphasis on first generation to college and/or immigrants or children of immigrants. Recipients must have demonstrated financial need, defined as eligibility for subsidized federal student loans.

How are Opportunity Scholarship Awardees selected?

Participating universities determine the selection process for their students. Many engineering schools use a committee or a group specifically involved with female and/or Hispanic, immigrant and/or minority engineering students to make recommendations for Opportunity Awards selection. GPA is not to be a determining criterion. Rather, students are to be selected on the basis of the likelihood that the Award will encourage them to complete their undergraduate degree in engineering.

When are students given the Scholarships?

Absent special circumstances, Opportunity Scholarship Awards should be awarded in the recipient's sophomore or junior year.

Note: Accordingly, the Awards should not go to seniors in their final semester before graduation.

When is the loan repaid?

Opportunity Award funds should be paid by the College to the lender(s) and applied to a recipient's federal loan debt within six months of graduation, ideally sooner. Our goal is to minimize any income tax consequences for the student from the deferred scholarship and to stop the accumulation of additional interest on the loan.

Does the Carter Foundation pay administrative fees?

The E. Eugene Carter Foundation does not pay administrative or overhead fees to participating institutions or their associated foundations. Recipient institutions have the use of the funds prior to repayment of the loans, typically two years or more.

Note: The university's foundation is our agent in this effort, whatever its relationship with the college or school of engineering. We hold them accountable for distributing these funds according to the Foundation's general guidelines and at the correct times. Academic research on the success in persistence to degree completion, et al., can be found at eecfoundation.org.

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