



1625 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 718
Los Angeles, CA 90015
Tel (213) 480-1052
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www.salef.org

Fulfilling Our Dreams

2010 Scholarship Application

“Fulfilling Our Dreams” Scholarship Fund

Since SALEF’s foundation in 1995 by a group of Salvadoran immigrants and activists, one of its prominent goals has been to provide educational assistance to Salvadoran and other Latino students in the United States. SALEF recognizes that in order for our communities to fully realize their dream of economic prosperity and political empowerment, the doors to higher education must be fully opened.

In keeping with this mission, SALEF established the *Fulfilling Our Dreams* Scholarship Fund which awards scholarships to Salvadoran and other Latino college students. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and are awarded annually.

SALEF highly emphasis community service experience as a means for social change. Special focus is placed on helping low income students who demonstrate leadership potential, desire, and availability to help SALEF give back to the community through community service projects. Projects require completing 52 hours in one year by becoming a mentor or tutor and joining SALEF chapters at different campus.

Our goal is for the student to adopt our philosophy of social responsibility and spirit by becoming part of SALEF’s family. The service projects guarantee that future Latino students will continue to receive the type of quality support that SALEF fosters. In addition, we want students to grow a sense of giving back to the community and teach other students that through dedication, effort, and commitment of helping others they will gain strong knowledge and experience to become the next generation of leaders and professionals.

SALEF’s partners include local colleges, universities, and government officials in our area that promote access to opportunities through informational fairs, application assistance, and financial aid information. “Fulfilling Our Dreams” is just one of a series of programs which strives to fulfill our vision.



SALEF’s mission is to advocate for the educational advancement, civic participation, leadership and economic prosperity of Salvadoran and other Latino communities in the U.S.; and to advance democracy and social justice in the U.S. and El Salvador.

DEADLINE APRIL 30, 2010

SALEF's Values:

Social Justice

We are rooted in social justice, political access, and economic prosperity. We promote progressive policy goals in the United States and throughout the world.

Advancing Democracy

We advocate for the democratic advancement of all people, with a special emphasis on Latinos, Central Americans and immigrants in the United States and the people of El Salvador.

Leadership Development

We promote leadership and offer leadership development opportunities to empower individuals and the community to lead efforts for social justice.

Education

We stress the importance of education to community and individual success.

Trust

We are a trustworthy organization. We forge and uphold the trust of the community with transparency and mutual accountability.

Eligibility Criteria

- ✓ Applicants must be of Central American or other Latino ethnicity
- ✓ Applicants must demonstrate proven financial need
- ✓ Applicants must possess a minimum 2.5 GPA
- ✓ Applicants must demonstrate a history of community involvement
- ✓ Applicants must be either:
 - a) Graduating High School seniors
 - b) Current undergraduate, graduate and professional students
 - c) Community college students (must be AB540)
- ✓ We prioritize in low income students that reside and study in either one of the following areas:
 - The Los Angeles Area (Specifically South Central Los Angeles, Pico Union-Central LA, East Los Angeles)
 - San Fernando Valley
 - San Francisco Bay Area

Terms and Conditions

- ✓ The scholarship award will be exclusively used for tuition purposes
- ✓ The scholarship award will be allocated directly to the school of attendance
- ✓ The award will be disbursed in two installments upon verification of scholarship requirements (maintain a GPA of 3.0 and completion of assigned community project by SALEF)
- ✓ Applicants must be willing to give back to the community by completing the equivalent of 52 community service hours assigned by SALEF through
 - Becoming a mentor to a high school and junior high school student
 - Completing a community project assigned by SALEF
 - A combination of both
- ✓ Applicant must be willing to join SALEF Chapters/Clubs at their respective institution/campus
- ✓ Students receiving a two year scholarship must complete the established requirements for two years in order to receive the full amount
- ✓ From the moment that the student applies to the moment in which we allocate the funds, SALEF will determine the financial need of the student and will reserve the right to cancel the scholarship if:
 - The student has already met his or her financial need
 - If the student has lied in his or her financial information
 - If the student fails to provide the information required
 - If the student fails to maintain a minimum of 3.0 GPA
 - If the students fails to keep communication with SALEF
 - Do not complete the community service requirement
 - If the student drops out of school

Notes

- SALEF Scholarship is a one-time award. Former SALEF scholars are ineligible to reapply for SALEF scholarship
- SALEF Scholarship is open to all qualifying students regardless of immigration status. AB 540 students are encouraged to apply

APPLICATION GUIDELINES: Please read the following before submitting your application.

- Send **all** supplementary documents with your completed application postmarked by **April 30, 2010**
- Applications postmarked after the deadline **will not** be accepted.
- Faxed or emailed applications **will not** be accepted.
- Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Applications missing any of the required documents are considered incomplete, unless SALEF's program manager has granted prior approval.
- Finalists will be notified of interviews via email and telephone during June 2010.
- Selected recipients will be notified in July 2010
- PLEASE NOTE: **No** regret letters will be sent.

Please mail or deliver **complete** application package to:

**Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF)
"Fulfilling Our Dreams" Scholarship Fund
ATTN: SCHOLARSHIP FUND COORDINATOR
1625 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 718
Los Angeles, CA 90015**

Questions?

**Please contact Guillermo Girón, Scholarship Program Coordinator
at (213) 480-1052 or via email at ggiron@salef.org**

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING WITH THE COMPLETE APPLICATION:

☐ Letters of Recommendation

Each applicant must submit two letters of recommendation. Letters should be sent on official letterhead when applicable and should address the following:

- Recommender's relationship to the applicant including engagement of time acquainted and in what capacity.
- Applicant's goals/aspirations/strengths/weaknesses.
- Examples of applicant's community/educational/leadership involvement.
- Assessment of the applicant's overall potential to succeed in college.

Personal Statement

In a written statement of no more than 800 words, please describe the following:

- Your background, family history, upbringing experiences, and obstacles confronted
- Goals/aspirations/ambitions including short and long-term goals
- Your history of community involvement, how you have contributed to your community and plan to keep contributing after graduation
- Why are you choosing your field of study?
- How do you ambition getting involved with SALEF maintaining our mission to support students like you?

Résumé

Please include paid and unpaid experience, highlighting your volunteer and community involvement, as well as certificates, awards and special honors received, and a complete educational history.

Official Transcripts

Official transcripts must have school seal and/or authorized signature. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

Copy of parents' and your own (if applicable) 2009 Federal Tax Return OR Proof of Family Income

(If not applicable, please include a less than a paragraph written statement with explanation.)

Copy of your Federal Financial Aid information

- Include your Financial Aid Award Letter
- Include your Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Include your financial aid amount information

(If you do not have the financial aid information by the time you apply, you may submit the application, but you will need to submit this information later to be consider as candidate)

(If not applicable, please include a less than a paragraph written statement with explanation.)

Color photograph and the attached RELEASE AUTHORIZATION FORM.

- Please include a nice, clear, and clean picture
 - Do **NOT** include:
 - Pictures printed in regular paper
 - Cell phone or computer taken pictures
 - Group pictures
- Wallet size photograph no larger than 3½ X 5 in.
- Head shots only

For Office Use Only: Gen Med UG Grad AB540	
Applicant Name: _____	_____
Applicant ID# _____	Date Rec'd: _____
Complete: Y	N

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Complete all sections. If not applicable, write N/A

Name: _____ Last First MI
Permanent Address: _____ Street Address
_____ City/State Zip Code
Mailing Address: _____ (If different from above) Street Address
_____ City/State Zip Code

Social Security No.: _____	Date of Birth: _____ Month/Day/Year	Gender: Male Female (circle one)
Home: (____) _____ - _____	Cell/Pager : (____) _____ - _____	Other : (____) _____ - _____
Email: _____		

Circle one:			
◆ Are you a U.S. citizen?	Yes	No	(for statistical purposes only)
◆ Are you a legal permanent resident?	Yes	No	(for statistical purposes only)
◆ Are you an AB 540 Student?	Yes	No	(for statistical purposes only)
(PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR CITIZENSHIP STATUS WILL NOT AFFECT YOUR CANDIDACY)			

Ethnicity: (specify country)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salvadoran	<input type="checkbox"/> Central American _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Mexican/Mexican American
<input type="checkbox"/> South American _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Latino _____	

Parent/Guardian Information:
Mother's Name: _____
Father's Name: _____
Parents' Marital Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Number of parent's dependents (including yourself): _____

I. ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

Complete appropriate section. If not applicable write N/A

Select one:

- Graduating high school senior, complete section A**
- Transferring student, complete section B**
- Current undergraduate student, complete section C**
- Graduate, PhD, or professional student, complete section D**

A. GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR

Current High School: _____

GPA (4.0 scales weighted): _____

Class Standing/ rank: _____

Graduation Date: _____

College you will be attending in Fall 2010:

Expected Academic Major(s):

B. TRANSFERRING STUDENT:

Name of Current College

Name of School Transferring to:

Class Standing/ rank: _____

GPA: _____

Expected Transferring Date: _____

Academic Major(s)/Minor(s):

High School Attended & Graduation Date:

C. CURRENT UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Current College/University:

Major(s)/Minor(s):

Class Standing/ rank: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

GPA: _____

High School Attended/Graduation Date

D. (Select one) CURRENT GRADUATE, PhD or PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

Current College/University:

Academic Program:

Class Standing/ rank: _____

GPA _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Undergraduate Degree:

Undergraduate School:

Undergraduate GPA: _____

NOTE: Applicants must be enrolled full time, at the time of selection, with an accredited institution of higher learning for the 2010-2011 school years.

III. FINANCIAL INFORMATION Complete all sections

1. (1a) Annual Family Income: _____ (1b) Personal Savings _____
 2. (2a) Are you a dependent? Yes No (2b) If no, do you have dependents? Yes No
 (3c) If yes, number of dependents? _____
 3. Number of family members attending college (not including yourself): _____
 4. Are you first generation to go to college? Yes _____ No _____

4. Did you apply for financial aid through FAFSA? Yes No
 (a) If no, please explain: _____
 (b) If yes, are you getting full tuition covered by financial aid? Yes No
 5. Have you received scholarships for this academic year? Yes No
 (a) If yes, please list organizations providing scholarships and amounts awarded?

**Please provide an estimate of the following for the 2010-11 academic years.
 (Recipients will be required to provide proof)**

Estimated School Expenses

Estimated Income

Tuition & Fees \$ _____
 Books & Supplies \$ _____
 Room & Board \$ _____
 Other (please list)
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

Scholarships \$ _____
 Grants (total) \$ _____
 Pell grant \$ _____
 Cal Grant \$ _____
 Loans \$ _____
 Financial aid \$ _____
 Parent Contribution \$ _____
 Employment \$ _____
 Other (please list)
 _____ \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

IV. APPLICATION CERTIFICATION (If under 18 years of age, parent signature required)

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize SALEF to verify any information submitted as part of this application. I understand that any falsifications will result in the disqualification of my application.

I understand that any changes in school and/or enrollment status must be reported to SALEF, failure to comply may lead to disqualification of my scholarship award if selected as a recipient.

I give SALEF permission to release my name, institution, essay, and photograph for promotional purposes, if selected to receive the Fulfilling Our Dreams Scholarship recipient.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

For Office Use Only: Gen Med UG Grad AB540

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant ID# _____ Date Rec'd: _____

Complete: Y N

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION FORM

Date: _____

TO:

Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund
"Fulfilling Our Dreams" Scholarship Program
1625 W. Olympic Blvd, Suite 718
Los Angeles, CA 90015

FROM:

Name: _____

Address: _____

AFFIX A **COLOR** PHOTOGRAPH HERE.

PHOTOGRAPH SPECIFICATIONS

- PHOTOGRAPGH **no larger than** 3 ½ X 5 in.
- HEAD SHOTS ONLY.
- PLEASE INCLUDE A NICE, CLEAR, AND CLEAN PICTURE
- **DO NOT INCLUDE:**
 - GROUP PICTURES.
 - PICTURES PRINTED IN REGULAR PAPER
 - CELL PHONE & COMPUTER TAKEN PICTURES

I, the undersigned, authorize the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund to reprint my personal statement and/or photograph for all rights, including but not limited to advertising/marketing, reports, newsletters and other publications.

I understand that my personal statement may be edited for grammar, clarity and/or suitability, as deemed necessary.

I understand that my personal statement and/or photograph may or may not be used and that my photograph will not be returned.

I understand that if I am selected I will comply with all the terms and conditions

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____