



The Mecca Scholars Fund FAQ

We have provided here some frequently asked/anticipated questions about our new 2026 scholarship! If, after reading through these questions and answers, you are still unsure about something, please email us at scholars@meccacenter.org and someone will be glad to answer your question!

General Info

Q1) Where can I apply for a scholarship?

The link to apply is available [here](#) and at meccacenter.org/scholars.

Q2) How do I create an account to fill out the application?

Click [here](#) for a tutorial on how to make an application.

Q3) When is the application due?

September 19th, 2026, at 11 PM CDT, inshallah.

Q4) I have received a scholarship from The Mecca Scholars Fund in a previous year. Can I apply again?

Unfortunately, we are not allowing previous recipients to apply again this year.

Q5) I saw that there is now both a need-based and a merit-based scholarship. Can I apply for both of them?

Unfortunately, you are NOT allowed to apply for both scholarships. Please pick whichever one aligns most closely with you.

Q6) When will I find out if I am a recipient?

September 2025, inshAllah.

Q7) Can I check the status of my application on the website where I fill out the application?

Yes, the website does allow you to check the status of your application and recommendation letter after submission.

Q8) How much is the award amount for the 2026-2027 cycle?

Depending on the application, it is up to 3000 USD

Volunteering

Q1) I noticed there is now a volunteering requirement. How do I go about volunteering for The Mecca Center?

Feel free to ask programs like Mecca MVMT, MQI, Sunday School, or even the main office if they have any events coming up that they need volunteers for or see if they need help with daily work! There is always something going on at the masjid and they are always looking for extra hands!

Q2) How many volunteer hours do I need?

For the merit-based scholarship, you will need a minimum of 45 hours. For the need-based scholarship, you will need a minimum of 15 hours.

Q3) Do all my volunteer hours have to be done at The Mecca Center?

Yes, all volunteer hours must be done at The Mecca Center with Mecca Center programming to be considered for the scholarship.

Q4) I saw on the application that there is a volunteer hours form. Where can I get one? Is it available online?

The volunteer hours forms will ONLY be available in the main office. **No digital copies will be circulated.**

Q5) How do I turn in the volunteer hours forms?

After the form has been filled in and signed, please scan the form and upload it to your application. If you do not have a scanner at home, there are now scanner apps that you can download to a personal device, such as a phone or tablet. Additionally, many smartphones now have built-in scanners that will create PDFs. After you have scanned the form, please drop off the physical form at the corresponding drop box in the main office of The Mecca Center by the September 19th deadline. Please note that an application that does not have both the digital and physical copies will be marked as incomplete and will NOT be processed.

Letters of Recommendation

Q1) How many letters of recommendation (LOR) do I need?

You only need one letter of recommendation from outside the Mecca Center.

Q2) Who can write me an LOR?

The letter of recommendation MUST come from someone **outside** of The Mecca Center; think professor/teacher, employer, coach, advisor, etc.

Q3) I entered an email for my recommender in the form and now they aren't responding to me/uploading a rec letter. Can I change my recommender?

As long as the application has not been submitted, you can edit your application and change the recommender email. Once you submit, you cannot change the recommender email or make any edits to your application.

Q4) My recommender says they have not received an email with the link to upload my letter. What do I do?

Ask them to check their spam folder. If it is not there, try re-adding their email to the application. If you have already submitted and your recommender still says they can't find the email, please let us know at scholars@meccacenter.org as soon as possible.

Q5) When are the recommendation letters due?

September 19th, 2026

Tech Questions

Q1) My PDF is too large to upload. What should I do?

Try using a free PDF compressor. A quick search on Google will give you several options that should help compress the document into a more compact size.

Q2) Can I stop and save my progress on my application whenever I need to?

Yes, the website allows applicants to save their progress in their application and resume later.

Q3) I submitted my application, but I realized I needed to add something. Can I edit it?

After the application has been submitted, it can no longer be edited. Please make sure to review your application carefully before submitting.

Q4) I am having trouble filling out my application. Who should I contact for help?

If you are having any technical difficulties with the application, please email scholars@meccacenter.org as soon as possible.