scholarship
[schol-er-ship] noun

Maintenance for a scholar; a foundation for the support of a student. Aid granted to a student because of merit, need, etc., to pursue his or her studies.

“For many students, the biggest challenge of earning a college degree isn't the academic rigor, but the financial burden. Your support will help lower this barrier, and provide future generations of Gorillas with the help they need to obtain a higher education.”

-Dr. Steven A. Scott, PSU President
There is significant competition among colleges and universities to recruit and retain students who have demonstrated superior academic achievement. The availability of scholarships is a critical component of maintaining an exceptional student body.

Pathways to PSU
Through the strategic planning process, Pittsburg State University has identified the increase of privately funded scholarships as a strategic priority. The PSU Foundation has begun a three-year campaign with a goal of raising $12 million in scholarship endowments to increase expendable private scholarship funding.
Although the university will raise scholarship funds to represent university-wide needs, five strategic priorities have been set:

**Transfer students**
Enrollments are increasing at community colleges across the Midwest. By creating additional scholarships, PSU can attract students transferring from two-year institutions to complete a four-year degree.

**High-achieving incoming freshmen**
Most scholarships at PSU are designated for junior and senior level students. Scholarships created for incoming freshmen with the proven potential for high academic achievement will help us in competing with other institutions of higher learning in recruiting outstanding students.

**Domestic students wishing to study abroad**
The university believes that experiencing another culture, language, and academic environment is beneficial to the development of the whole student. In order to encourage PSU students to undertake a study abroad experience, scholarships will be created to help underwrite travel costs and tuition for these programs.

**Juniors and seniors with 3.0-3.5 GPAs**
Most scholarships at PSU have been designated for students who achieve grade-point-averages in excess of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. While this requirement recognizes outstanding academic achievement, it does not provide scholarship support for students with 3.0-3.5 GPAs.

**Students from diverse ethnic backgrounds**
One of the categories identified by PSU in its performance agreement with the Board of Regents is the recruitment and retention of students from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Scholarships for these students, particularly African American and Hispanic students, would help the university achieve this goal.
Why campaign for scholarships?

Providing scholarship funds to deserving students is possibly the most important function performed by donors to the Pittsburg State University Foundation. In 2013, more than $3 million in scholarships were awarded to students attending Pittsburg State. A special focus on increasing scholarship support is important due to the rising costs of educating a student and the state’s decreasing budget allocations.

Pittsburg State University has three primary sources of revenue: state appropriations, tuition and fees paid by students and other locally generated funds, and private gifts from alumni and friends. Because of recent economic conditions, the State of Kansas has been unable to keep up with the rising costs of higher education. Rather than cutting professors, classes, or degree programs, Pittsburg State has been forced to raise tuition, placing a greater financial burden on students. Over the past three years, tuition for an in-state undergraduate student attending Pittsburg State University has risen more than 21%.

Such increases have an impact on students’ access to higher education. Some of the most economically depressed counties in the state are within Pittsburg State University’s service region. The only way to ensure that these students can continue to receive a college education is by increasing private support for scholarships.
How to create a scholarship

Funding a scholarship through the Pittsburg State University Foundation is an effective way to recruit and retain the brightest students to PSU. Scholarships can be created to address financial need, recognize academic achievement, or honor a PSU student who is enrolled in a specific degree program. A donor may create a current scholarship, wherein 100% of the donor’s gift is awarded to students on an annual basis, or as funds are available. A donor may also choose to create an endowment, which will fund scholarships for PSU students in perpetuity.

Why an endowment?

Endowment gifts are held in trust forever by the PSU Foundation, with the annual interest earned being used to fund scholarships for worthy students. Endowments enable the University to make commitments far into the future, knowing that the resources to meet these future commitments will continue to be available. As a continuous, dependable source of funding, endowments are particularly useful because they provide funds to our institution through the years rather than a scholarship based on an annual gift. Currently, the minimum requirement to establish an endowed scholarship is $10,000. The donor has three years to reach the minimum amount required.

The PSU Foundation recommends that current use scholarships annually provide a minimum of $1,000 per scholarship. Donors who establish scholarships are entitled to name the scholarship after themselves or someone they wish to honor. Individuals wishing to establish a scholarship through an estate or trust may contact the Office of University Development for sample language and tips on how to create a scholarship through a planned gift, such as including the university in a will or charitable gift annuity.
## Cost of attending PSU
### 2013-14 Tuition & Fees Per Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RESIDENT</th>
<th>NON RESIDENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate student enrolled in 10+ hours</td>
<td>$2,953</td>
<td>$7,893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate students enrolled in 9+ hours</td>
<td>$3,313</td>
<td>$7,893</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PSU Foundation spending policy

Each year endowments established with the Pittsburg State University Foundation earn interest based on the performance of the Foundation’s investments. Not all endowment income is spent—a portion is reinvested back into the endowment as a hedge against inflation. The Foundation Board of Trustees sets a spending policy to govern how much of the interest income is spent for the purpose of the endowment and how much is reinvested. A spending policy provides a disciplined approach to moving money from the endowment on a predictable, consistent basis.
For the current fiscal year, the following percentage of the market value of each individual endowment is available to be used according to the spending policy—4% for the purpose of the endowment, 1% as a management fee, and 95% remains in the endowment. The principal amount of the endowment (corpus) is spent only with the express permission of the donor. Subsequent gifts to the endowment by the donor or other alumni and friends are placed into the corpus or made to be expendable at the direction of the individual or organization making the gift.

**Endowed Scholarship Level Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENDOWMENT LEVEL</th>
<th>SPENDING %</th>
<th>SCHOLARSHIP SPENDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 *</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 *</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 *</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* See below

**Early Impact Program**

During the final year of the Pathways to PSU Campaign (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014), with any new endowed scholarship that is developed at the level of $25,000 or above, the PSU Foundation will “pay ahead” on the earnings of each endowment allowing its impact on students to be immediate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENDOWMENT LEVEL</th>
<th>AWARDS/YEAR</th>
<th>FOUR-YEAR FOR FY14-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25,000-$49,999</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000-$99,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000+</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
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</table>

The Early Impact Program will be available only for new endowments starting during this limited time. Payouts begin when the endowment reaches the minimum of $25,000. Early Impact disbursements will not be made past fiscal year 2018.
Take the first step

Any staff member in the Office of University Development would be pleased to assist alumni and friends of Pittsburg State in creating new scholarships.

Pittsburg State University offers numerous ways of giving to make your contribution more convenient for you. Gifts can be made online or by mail.

Pittsburg State University
Office of University Development
1701 S. Broadway • Pittsburg, KS 66762
deval@plttstate.edu • 620-235-4768
www.plttstate.edu/givenow

For more information about including a PSU scholarship through a planned gift arrangement, such as a will or gift annuity, visit the Build Your Legacy website at www.plttstate.edu/legacy

“My scholarship has given me opportunities that I wouldn’t have otherwise had to attend a great university and succeed as a student. I can’t express how much I appreciate the support PSU receives from alumni and friends. It makes me proud to be a gorilla!”

-Lauren Williams, PSU senior