

SR 22/23-01

Sponsored By:

Presented By: William Partain, Continuation Commissioner

Date: January 17, 2023



Resolution to create a Student Government Association Funded Housing Scholarship

Short Title: A resolution to create a housing scholarship for A-State students in need that is to be awarded every academic year

- Whereas, the SGA Constitution states that the SGA shall “consider all matters that may concern the general interest of the student body”; and
- Whereas, the SGA Constitution states it is the responsibility of the SGA to strive toward higher academic standards; and
- Whereas, a poor housing environment is a major barrier to the success of some members of the student body; and
- Whereas, housing insecurity is a major barrier to the success of some members of the student body; and
- Whereas, according to peer reviewed research students who live on campus are more likely to graduate; and
- Whereas, there is precedent for the SGA creating scholarships as previous administrations have funded scholarships without legislation; and
- Whereas, the average allotment from the Student Activity Fee that the SGA received over the past five years is \$70,750.63; and
- Whereas, direct action from the SGA to help individual students is well within the SGA’s means; and
- Whereas, direct action in such a manner, as stated below, would be looked favorably upon by the campus community.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

The institution formally creates and funds a scholarship that would help fund a student's on-campus housing at the university. Five scholarship awards will be given out every academic year. The scholarships are not to be given to the same individuals repeatedly, but previous recipients are allowed to apply for the scholarship in subsequent academic years. The reward is to be used to help cover the cost of any on-campus residence for the reward recipient. The goal of the scholarship is to give students who demonstrate a need the assistance they require to get them into a housing situation that is conducive to their success in college. The specifications of the scholarship are as follows;

The Award

- Awards will be given out every academic year.
- The dollar amount for each of the awards will be \$1,100 dollars to each individual recipient, for a total of \$5,500 having been distributed by the SGA.
- The recipients shall be chosen from the pool of applicants by the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee.
- The recipients shall receive the Award in two halves—one at the beginning of the Fall Semester and one at the beginning of the Spring Semester.
- The recipients shall receive each half of the reward no later than the 11th day of classes for each respective semester.
- The recipients may use the award for any on campus residence.
- Preferably, the award will be deposited directly into the recipients's Account with Arkansas State University.
 - If this is not possible, the recipients shall receive the reward in the form of a check from the SGA. The recipients shall be required to submit proof of the funds being deposited into the recipients's account with Arkansas State University to the Chair of the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee.
 - Proof of deposit must be sent to the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee by five (5) days after the award has been distributed to the recipients.

Eligibility

- Any currently enrolled, full-time student to Arkansas State University in good academic standing and signed up for on-campus housing in the upcoming academic year is eligible to apply for the reward.
- Students who already have the entire cost of their on-campus housing paid for via grants, scholarships, awards, and/or all other types of gift aid are considered ineligible for the reward.

- Applicants must submit an application to the Chair of the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee to be considered for the Award.
 - If an applicant submits an application that does not meet the specifications laid out by this resolution or the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee, the applicant will be considered ineligible for the Award.
- Preference will be given to an applicant who demonstrates (a) financial need, (b) academic achievement in the face of adversity, and (c) a want to participate in and improve the campus community.

Application

- Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee must create an application form before the end of 2023 Fall Semester.
- The SGA must disseminate the form via the SGA webpage on the A-State website.
- Discussing and/or sharing the details of an Applicant with anyone outside of the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee will result in the removal of the offending Senator from the SGA.
- Only a faculty member who is the Chair of the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee is permitted to verify that the Applicant is in good academic standing with the University.
- The nature of the application form and the application timeline shall be left up to the discretion of the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee, but only within the specifications laid out within this Resolution.
- The SGA will provide the Financial Aid and Scholarships Shared Governance Committee with a guide that will define a general timeline that the SGA would look favorably upon. It will also include recommendations for methods of advertisement for the application.

Pass _____

Fail _____

Maddyson Lamb, Vice President

Carlee Bird, President