

## Venture Miami Scholarship | Application Guidelines

### History

Established in 2021, Venture Miami is an office within the City of Miami focused on improving the City's standard of living through the creation of jobs, support for innovation, increase in wealth, and overall improvement in the quality of life. With this mission in mind, the **Venture Miami Scholarship Fund** was formed in partnership with **The Miami Foundation** to provide tuition support through gap funding for at-need City residents who have been accepted into STEM or in-demand occupation programs at participating colleges and universities, which include Florida International University (FIU), Florida Memorial University (FMU), Miami Dade College (MDC), and the University of Miami (UM). Venture Miami is committed to building *Miami Forever and a Miami for Everyone*.

**Deadline: April 26, 2024**

**Submit your application here;**  
[www.scholarships.miamifoundation.org](http://www.scholarships.miamifoundation.org)

Please note, scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. Funds are not guaranteed until all unmet need is confirmed, and funds are deemed available.

### Eligibility

- Current City of Miami resident at time of application
  - Applicant must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
  - High school senior or recent graduate within last 4 years at time of application
- Must be a Pell Grant recipient determined by the Florida Student Aid FAFSA guidelines OR, for Miami-Dade College students ONLY, have a household income less than 80% of the AMI for the City of Miami. \* Please check the [Housing Income Limits](#) on the City of Miami Website to see if you qualify.
- Received acceptance into a bachelor's degree program in a defined science, technology, engineering, and math ("STEM") or a defined high wage/demand occupation, currently nursing. \*\*
- Complete application submitted online by the deadline. No information will be accepted by email, mail or fax. If an application is missing information or attachments, our offices will **NOT** inform the applicant.

\*80% of Area Median Income was calculated based on the [Housing Income Limits](#) as determined by the US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). For the University of Miami, you will also need to meet [institutional requirements](#) to qualify for aid. Please contact their Department of Financial Aid for more details.

\*\*Apart from the specified associate programs from Miami-Dade College.

### Application Attachments + Special Instructions:

You will be asked to upload copies of the documents below. **All required attachments must be uploaded as a single document in PDF or JPEG format.** For documents with multiple pages, you must combine them into a single document before they can be uploaded. PDF and JPEG are the only formats the online portal will allow.

1. **Venture Miami Unmet Need Calculator:** Download this from [here](#) and complete it. Use the figures to enter into your application.

2. **FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR):** Upload **all pages** for the applied year.
  - Don't have your FAFSA Student Aid Report? If you have completed your FAFSA and need assistance locating your Student Aid Report, or SAR, [click here](#).
  - If you have not yet completed your FAFSA, [click here for support in completing the form](#). As a reminder, you will not be considered for this scholarship without a completed FAFSA.
3. **Proof of Residence:** Upload **one** of the following documents to show proof of residency. Documents can be in the name of a parent/guardian. \*
  - Current utility statements with a City of Miami address,
  - Current year's lease, or
  - Deed from a homestead property.

\* **Unhoused Applicants:** If you are currently unhoused, please provide letters of support from other City of Miami residents who can confirm you are a City of Miami resident. Consider asking teachers, family, friends, and/or shelter employees.

### **Venture Miami Application (Continued)**

#### **Review + Awards Process:**

- A completed application does not guarantee funding. It only guarantees review and consideration.
- Please note, scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. Funds are not guaranteed until all unmet need is confirmed, and funds are deemed available.
- **Awards are made for attendance at the educational institution you indicate in the application. Because they are based on unmet need for full-time enrollment at specific school, they are not transferable to another institution after scholarship is awarded. If an award is made and you transfer schools, or enroll less than full time, the award will be withdrawn.**
- A committee will review applications for eligibility on a rolling basis and make final decisions on scholarship awards. Students will be notified of whether they have been selected to receive a scholarship via email.
- ☐ **We will use the email address you provide in your application to notify you.** Please be sure it is correct.

VENTURE MIAMI



**The Miami Foundation**  
For A Greater Miami

**FIU** | FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



**FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY**



Miami Dade College



**UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI**

## Venture Miami Scholarship | Application Questions

This is a template of the application that shows the information you will need to submit online. **Mailed, emailed or faxed applications will not be accepted.** Use this as a worksheet to gather the information you will need to provide online. To submit your application, go to [www.scholarships.miamifoundation.org](http://www.scholarships.miamifoundation.org)

### Select Your School:

Miami-Dade College  
 Florida International University  
 Florida Memorial University  
 University of Miami  
 None/Other

Miami-Dade College	Florida International Univ.	Florida Memorial Univ.	University of Miami
<p><i>Select a Qualifying Associate's or Bachelor's Degree Program</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applied Artificial Intelligence (Associate)</li> <li>Animation &amp; Game Art (Associate)</li> <li>Biomedical Engineering Technology (Associate)</li> <li>Biotechnology (Associate)</li> <li>Business Intelligence Specialist (Associate)</li> <li>Civil Engineering Technology (Associate)</li> <li>Computer Crime Investigation (Associate)</li> <li>Computer Engineering Technology (Associate)</li> <li>Computer Information Systems (Associate)</li> <li>Computer Science (Associate)</li> <li>Computer Information Technology (Associate)</li> <li>Computer Programming and Analysis (Associate)</li> <li>Cybersecurity (Associate)</li> <li>Database Technology – Oracle Database Administration (Associate)</li> <li>Electronics Engineering Technology (Associate)</li> <li>Entrepreneurship (Associate)</li> <li>Engineering – Architectural (Associate)</li> <li>Engineering – Chemical (Associate)</li> <li>Engineering – Civil (Associate)</li> <li>Engineering – Computer (Associate)</li> </ul>	<p><i>Select a Qualifying Bachelor's Degree Program</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological Sciences</li> <li>Biomedical Engineering</li> <li>Business Analytics</li> <li>Civil Engineering</li> <li>Computer Engineering</li> <li>Computer Science</li> <li>Electrical Engineering</li> <li>Environmental Engineering</li> <li>Information Technology</li> <li>Internet of Things</li> <li>Management Information Systems</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>Nursing</li> <li>Physics</li> <li>Statistics</li> </ul>	<p><i>Select a Qualifying Bachelor's Degree Program</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aeronautical Science - Air Traffic Control</li> <li>Aeronautical Science - Flight Education</li> <li>Aviation Management</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Biology - Radiobiology</li> <li>Biology/Nursing</li> <li>Chemistry - BA</li> <li>Chemistry - Radiochemistry</li> <li>Computer Science</li> <li>Cybersecurity</li> <li>Engineering/Physics</li> <li>Environmental Science</li> <li>FMC/FIU Joint Engineering Program</li> <li>Healthcare</li> <li>Information Systems</li> <li>Mathematics</li> </ul>	<p><i>Select a Qualifying Bachelor's Degree Program</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aerospace Engineering</li> <li>Architectural Engineering</li> <li>Biochemistry</li> <li>Biology</li> <li>Biomedical Engineering</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Civil Engineering</li> <li>Computer Engineering</li> <li>Computer Science</li> <li>Electrical Engineering</li> <li>Engineering Science</li> <li>Environmental Engineering</li> <li>Geological Sciences</li> <li>Industrial Engineering</li> <li>Innovation, Technology and Design</li> <li>Marine Affairs</li> <li>Marine Biology and Ecology</li> <li>Marine Science</li> <li>Mathematics</li> <li>Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>Meteorology</li> <li>Microbiology</li> <li>Neuroscience</li> <li>Nursing</li> <li>Oceanography</li> <li>Physics</li> </ul>

Engineering – Geomatics [Surveying and Mapping] (Associate) Engineering – Electrical (Associate) Engineering – Industrial (Associate) Engineering – Mechanical (Associate) Engineering – Ocean (Associate) Engineering – Science (Associate) Game Development & Design (Associate) Graphic Design Technology (Associate) Graphic Internet Technology (Associate) Network Services Technology (Associate) Nursing – R.N. (Associate) Biopharmaceutical Sciences Biotechnology (Bachelor) Cybersecurity (Bachelor) Data Analytics (Bachelor) Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology (Bachelor) Information Systems Technology (Bachelor) Nursing (Bachelor)			
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**Program Acceptance/Declaration:**

Have you been accepted into the program above or declared it as your major?

**MDC Only: Authorization for Release of Educational Records**

Please download, date, and sign the Authorization for Release of Educational Records below. Once you have signed, please upload the PDF.  
 Download, sign, upload: Miami-Dade College Release

**MDC Only: Upload Photo ID**

Per Miami-Dade College FERPA requirements, please upload a photo ID.

**Personal Information:**

University/College ID Number:		
Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Name:
Date of Birth:	Race & Ethnicity:	Gender Identity:
Ability Status:		
Address:		
Preferred Phone Number:	Email: <i>(For all notifications. Be sure it's correct)</i>	
From which high school did you graduate?	University/College e-mail address:	

**ENTER THE ITEMS FROM YOUR UNMET NEED CALCULATOR for this semester ONLY.** Complete the calculator worksheet first, following the guidance provided for each item. Enter the total amount for each item from your Unmet Need Calculator. If your amount is \$0.00 enter "0".

- Total Cost of Attendance amount for 2024-2025 from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- FAFSA Expected Family Contribution (EFC) amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Your School's Financial Aid Awards - Total Grants amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Your School's Financial Aid Awards - Total Scholarships (not including Bright Futures) amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Federal Financial Aid - Work Study amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Federal Financial Aid - Loans amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Florida Prepaid Contract amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Florida Bright Futures Program – Florida Academic Scholars amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Florida Bright Futures Program – Florida Medallion Scholars amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Florida Bright Futures Program – Gold Seal Cape Scholars amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Florida Bright Futures Program – Gold Seal Vocational Scholars amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Private Scholarships amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Private Educational Loans amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Total Unmet Need amount from calculator: \$\_\_\_\_\_

### **Additional Questions:**

#### Financial Questions

- What is the total annual household income of your parent(s) or guardian(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many people live in the household? \_\_\_\_\_
- How much do your parent(s) or guardian(s) pay monthly for the home they live in? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which of the following reflects housing expenses you will have for the 2023-2024 school year?
  - On-campus room & board expenses
  - Off-campus (not living at home)
  - Living with parents and/or family
- If you have educational loans for any prior years in college, what is the outstanding balance? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many family members in the household, including you, will be attending college the upcoming semester? \_\_\_\_\_

#### College Experience Questions

Your response to the following questions will be used for data analysis purposes only and will not impact your eligibility.

- How do you plan on commuting to campus?
  - Drive, Carpool, Walk, Bicycle, Scooter, Bus, Metrorail, TriRail, Brightline
- Do you have a computer that you will use while enrolled at this university? Yes/No
- Is your computer older than 5 years old? Yes/No
- Not including work study, do you work, or do you intend to work while enrolled at this university?
  - No
  - Yes, 1-10 hours per week
  - Yes, 11-20 hours per week
  - Yes, 21-30 hours per week
  - Yes, 31-40 hours per week

- If you intend to work while enrolled, in what industry? If you do not plan to work, you may skip this question.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- If you intend to work while enrolled, what are your wages, or what do you expect them to be? If you do not plan to work, select "Not Applicable".
  - Not Applicable
  - <\$10 per hour
  - \$10-\$15 per hour
  - \$15-\$20 per hour
  - >\$20 per hour
- Were you accepted by any other universities outside of Miami-Dade County? If so, list them here. If you were not accepted by any other universities outside of Miami-Dade County, you may skip this question.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why did you choose to not attend a school outside of Miami-Dade County? If you were not accepted by any other universities outside of Miami-Dade County, you may skip this question. \_\_\_\_\_
- Where do you potentially want to start your career? Please select 3 options.
  - Tech Startup
  - Late-Stage Tech Company
  - Public Tech Company
  - Financial Institution
  - Government
  - Nonprofit
  - Other
- If you selected "other" above, list your preferred career sector here. If you did not select "other", you may skip this question. \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us?

- Where did you hear about the Venture Miami Scholarship?

**Application Attachments:**

Carefully review the application guidelines for details about each attachment. **All required attachments must be uploaded as a single document.** For documents with multiple pages, you must combine them into a single document before they can be uploaded.

- **Documents Sent to Your University/College:** By checking each box, you are agreeing to the corresponding statement:
  - I have sent my Student Aid Report (SAR) to the school I am attending.
  - UM only: I have completed my CSS profile.
  - UM only: I have submitted all relevant tax documentation needed to be considered for financial aid.
- **FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR):** Upload **all pages** as a single PDF document (File limit: 5 MB)
- **Proof of Residence:** Upload **one** of the following documents to show proof of residency. (File limit: 5MB)
  - Utility statements with a City of Miami address for the last 3 years.
  - Lease for the last 3 years, or
  - Deed from a homestead property bought more than 3 years ago

*Unhoused Applicants* If you are currently unhoused or have been in the last three years, please provide letters of support from other City of Miami residents who can confirm you are a City of Miami resident. Consider asking teachers, family, friends, and/or shelter employees.

- **Unmet Need Calculator:** Please upload a PDF version of your Unmet Need Calculator.

**Certification: In submitting the online application, you certify the following:**

As a scholarship recipient, I give permission for pictures, personal quotes and contact information to be used by Venture Miami and The Miami Foundation. I certify that all statements I have made herein are true and correct. I understand that if I submit an incomplete application, do not answer all required questions on the application, or do

not submit all required documents, my application will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered for this scholarship. I also understand that a Venture Miami Scholarship if awarded is based on full-time enrollment and is NOT transferable to another institution after a scholarship is awarded. If I do not attend the college/university stated in this application, or I enroll less than full-time, any award will be withdrawn.

- I agree
- I do not agree

### Authorization for Release of Educational Records

By typing your name below, you give consent for The Miami Foundation (40 NW 3rd Street, Suite 305 Miami, FL 33128) to have LIMITED ACCESS to your Educational Record. Limited access does not give authority to make changes to the student's educational record.

Effective dates: This authorization is effective the date this application is submitted and expires on October 12, 2024.

Purpose: The purpose of the Authorization for Release of Information is to verify the information you have provided on this application including but not limited to the listed degree program and the total amount of unmet needs as not covered by grants and scholarships.

I understand that some of my records may be protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and cannot be released without my written consent. I also authorize the release of my medical records which may be classified as protected health information and covered by stated and federal law, including HIPAA. I hereby waive all provisions of the law and privilege relating to the records described in this disclosure. I certify that this consent has been given freely and voluntarily. I may revoke this consent at any time by providing written notice of such revocation to Miami Dade College, Office of the College Registrar. This authorization is valid for one year from the date I sign this release (unless noted differently above) when presented in person with appropriate identification. The person and/or agency receiving this information may not disclose the information received as a result of this disclosure unless specifically authorized in the "purpose" section of this release.

- I agree to share my Educational Records as listed above with The Miami Foundation.
- I DO NOT agree to share my Educational Records as listed above with The Miami Foundation.

Type your name to sign \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Venture Miami Scholarship | Frequently Asked Questions

### *What does “last dollar” scholarship mean?*

Last-dollar scholarships are designed to cover remaining tuition\* costs after all scholarships, grants, and institutional aid have been applied. Simply put, last dollar scholarships cover the “unmet need” or gap.

\*If attending the University of Miami, awards will be based on total cost of attendance, not tuition.

### *Do I have to apply to the FAFSA to be eligible for this scholarship?*

Yes. The Venture Miami Scholarship is a last dollar, needs-based scholarship. This means you have exhausted all other scholarship and grant opportunities available to you, most notably federal aid. In addition, we are using Pell Grant qualifications as one metric to determine need.

### *Do I still qualify if I am **not** a Pell Grant recipient?*

Completing the FAFSA and qualifying for the Pell Grant is a requirement for all applicants **except select students attending Miami-Dade College**. Miami-Dade College students who have a household income less than 80% of the AMI for the City of Miami qualify for the Venture Miami Scholarship. \* To check your eligibility, please check the [Housing Income Limits](#) on the City of Miami Website.

### *Why do I need to upload my FAFSA?*

The committee reviewing your application will use your FAFSA to verify the information provided on your application. Additionally, because completing the FAFSA is a requirement for this application, we request a copy to ensure this requirement is met.

### *Do I have to wait until I received my Financial Aid Letter from my university before applying to this scholarship?*

Yes. However, you can begin the application process as you await your financial aid letter. You will need information from the Letter to complete the [Unmet Need Calculator](#). We suggest asking your school’s Financial Aid Office for an estimate letter if you have not yet received your financial aid letter.

### *Who can I talk to at my school if I have questions about Financial Aid and whether I am eligible for this scholarship?*

#### **Miami-Dade College**

Antonio Delgado - adelgad9@mdc.edu  
VP of Innovation and Technology Partnerships

#### **Florida International University (FIU)**

Laura Castillo - lccasti@fiu.edu  
Senior Director, Enrollment Planning and  
Scholarship Operations

#### **Florida Memorial University**

Sheila Castro – sheila.castro@fmuniv.edu  
Director of Financial Aid

#### **University of Miami (UM)**

Daniel T. Barkowitz - dbarkowitz@miami.edu  
Assistant Vice President, Office of Student  
Financial Assistance & Student Employment

### *Why do I have to apply each semester?*

The Venture Miami Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship. Each semester, we will reevaluate your need to see if you still qualify and the amount needed to fulfill your unmet need is up to date.

### *How can I verify that I live in the City of Miami?*

The following zip codes are within The City of Miami limits:

33101	33125	33129	33133	33137	33142	33147	33222	33242
33109	33126	33130	33134	33138	33144	33149	33233	33245
33111	33127	33131	33135	33139	33145	33150	33234	33255
33114	33128	33132	33136	33140	33146	33151	33238	



*Where can I do to find more information about other scholarship and financial aid opportunities available to me?*

The [Miami Foundation scholarship page](#) is a great resource to learn about other scholarship opportunities. Additionally, each school has a scholarship page dedicated to helping you learn about opportunities.

[Miami-Dade College](#)

[Florida International University](#)

[Florida Memorial University](#)

[University of Miami](#)