

Information about Appealing a Scholarship Decision

2009-10 FRESHMAN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

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Please read the following instructions carefully. The Freshman Scholarship Appeals Committee cannot review an appeal until all of the required information is received by the Office of Admissions.

Scholarship appeal description:

Freshman academic scholarship awards are highly competitive. Each admission application is carefully reviewed and scholarship decisions are based on an overall assessment of the information contained in the original application materials. We have had to make very difficult decisions to select the overall strongest applicants from an extremely competitive applicant pool.

Students appealing a scholarship decision should provide new and compelling academic information that was not previously included in their applications, or extenuating personal circumstances that they feel warrant a change in the scholarship decision.

Please note: Due to the highly competitive applicant pool and competitive number of scholarship awards, it is uncommon for us to be able to change our original decision. Only rarely, when presented with extremely compelling new information, are we able to change a student's scholarship decision.

Components of a complete scholarship appeal:

The appeal must be submitted in writing *by the applicant*, and must include the student's most recent grades. The applicant may also submit letters of support from teachers, counselors, and other persons who can speak to their academic and personal characteristics.

Please submit the following items:

- A completed *Scholarship Appeals Form* (see last page)
 - Your current high school transcript or grade report with your most recent grades, including any Post Secondary Enrollment Option or College in the Schools grades.
 - Letters of recommendation/support (optional; please see description above)
 - Your typed answers to questions A-C. Each question listed on this form must be addressed as *specifically and completely* as possible. Be sure to include your name on each additional sheet. The scholarship committee will conduct an overall reassessment of your admission application and the information included in this appeal.
- A.** Please explain any extenuating circumstances that you feel warrant a different scholarship decision. Include any new significant, compelling information *not previously included* in your application.
 - B.** If your application for admission was submitted after the December 15, 2008, priority deadline, please explain any extenuating circumstances that you feel warrant special consideration.
 - C.** Please include any additional information that you want the Freshman Scholarship Appeals Committee to consider in re-reviewing your application.

Please return all requested materials to:

Freshman Scholarship Appeals Committee
University of Minnesota–Twin Cities
Office of Admissions
240 Williamson Hall
231 Pillsbury Drive SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0213

What factors do you consider when a student submits a scholarship appeal?

Students appealing a scholarship decision would do so on the basis of extenuating personal circumstances or substantial **new** academic information not previously included in their application materials. We consider the following factors when reviewing an application:

Primary review factors

- Strength of curriculum through high school graduation.
- High school rank percentile. (*Students from non-ranking schools and those with GED or other high school equivalency scores are given full consideration.*)
- Grade point average.
- ACT or SAT scores.

Secondary review factors

- Exceptionally rigorous academic curriculum that may include honors, AP, IB, or college level courses.
- Evidence of exceptional achievement, aptitude, or personal accomplishment not reflected in the academic record or standardized test scores.
- A pattern of steady improvement in academic performance.
- Participation in extracurricular college preparatory programs (e.g., MEP, PSEO, Talent Search, UMTYMP, Upward Bound, and other programs).
- Evidence of exceptional talent or ability in artistic, scholarly, scholarly research, leadership, or athletic performance.
- ACT/SAT writing test results.
- Outstanding high school or community involvement.
- Size of graduating class.
- Military service.
- Work experience, paid or unpaid.
- Family attendance or employment at the University of Minnesota.
- First-generation college student.
- Evidence of exceptional motivation, maturity, or responsibility.
- Evidence of having overcome social, economic, or physical barriers to educational achievement.
- Evidence that enrollment would enhance the cultural, gender, age, economic, racial, or geographic diversity of the student body.
- Extenuating circumstances.

When will I hear about the outcome of my appeal?

Appeal received/ completed by	Appeal decision mailed by
Apr 10, 2009	Apr 24, 2009
Apr 24, 2009	May 1, 2009



Office of Admissions

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities • 612-625-2008 or 1-800-752-1000
(TTY 612-625-9051)

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