



Application Materials for

2015-2016

**DIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR TRANSFERS
(DEST)***

IMPORTANT: Retain a copy for your records after completing application

Deadline for application materials May 11, 2015
University of Central Florida Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Programs

The Diversity Enhancement Scholarship for Transfers (DEST) is a competitive program for qualified minority (Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander) Florida residents, which is awarded on the basis of financial need, academic merit, both need/merit, and other selection criteria. You must adhere to the following application guidelines in order to qualify for priority consideration. ***The program gives priority to students who declare a major in one of the STEM disciplines: fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.**

All Students

Need-based applicants must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average on all postsecondary credits.

Merit and need/merit-based applicants must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average on all postsecondary credits.

- **In order to demonstrate financial need, all need-based and need/merit-based applicants must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form or a Renewal FAFSA, transmitted appropriately as indicated in the FAFSA instructions. To receive full consideration for the DEST, the FAFSA would have been completed by March 1, 2015.**

*This program is contingent upon continued annual support by the State of Florida.

Initial Applicants Must:

- ❖ Complete an A.A. or A.S. degree from an accredited Florida Community College or State College between December 2014 and August 2015.
- ❖ Gain admission as a degree-seeking student into the junior year at the University of Central Florida.
- ❖ Comply with Selective Service System registration requirements (male applicants only).
- ❖ Submit all materials by the application deadline.

Submit the following by **May 11, 2015**:

- ✓ A completed 2015-16 DEST application form emailed from your assigned UCF name@knights.ucf.edu email account for purposes of verification. Applicants must transmit it on or before **May 11, 2015**.
- ✓ A current official (not a photocopy) transcript must be **U.S. mailed, in paper form, directly from the applicant's Florida community college or state college to: EO/AA Office, 330 Millican Hall, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida 32816-0030.** *The program will not accept electronic transcripts, transcripts that are hand delivered, or mailed by the applicant; no exceptions.* **(Note – summer graduates must submit a transcript by May 11, 2015. If you receive an award, you must submit a final transcript showing degree award in August 2015.**
- ✓ A statement of no more than one double-spaced page describing declared major, why the major was chosen, career goals, and any other relevant information the applicant would like to include. This statement must be prepared in Word format and emailed with the application.
- ✓ Three letters of reference, **applicant's college professors or academic advisors, emailed from their username@that.institution.** **If letters must be mailed, preparation on college letterhead is required.** The letter must address applicant's academic success and potential. *The program will not consider letters written by personal supporters such as family, friends, or high school teachers, etc.* The letters must include name, title, address and phone number of the writer.

Application Procedure

Email the application form to eeo@ucf.edu from your assigned UCF name@knights.ucf.edu email account. Attach the personal statement to the email. Direct that the three letters of reference be emailed to: **EO/AA, Director, Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action Programs at eeo@ucf.edu** as well.

Notification

The program will notify all applicants of their status as DEST recipients, alternate award candidates, or as students who were not selected. The notifications will come as email to the name@knights.ucf.edu email address specified on the DEST application form. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify UCF Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action Programs of any changes to the permanent address or knights.ucf.edu email address. Applicants who have not received notification by July 1, 2015 are invited to email the office (eeo@ucf.edu) to check their status.

After Selection, Recipients Must

- ❖ Complete and return the acceptance form by the date specified on the award notification letter. Failure to return the acceptance form by the specified date will result in forfeiture of the award. Applicants who do not receive an email acknowledging receipt of their acceptance form within seven days are responsible for notifying UCF EO/AA immediately to prevent forfeiture.
- ❖ Earn a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours each semester.
- ❖ Adhere to minimum grade point average requirements (see need, merit and need/merit specifications).
- ❖ Apply for renewal consideration prior to the application deadline for each academic year in which the award is desired. DEST recipients may qualify for the award for up to six (6) semesters of undergraduate enrollment.

Award Payment

After verification of enrollment, the university will disburse the award on a prorated basis each academic term to eligible DEST recipients. Half of the award will pay in the Fall and the other half in the Spring semester, usually by week 4 of the term.

**Check the status of your application via eeo@ucf.edu
For additional information, refer to www.eeo.ucf.edu**

Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino Non-Hispanic/Latino

Race (select one or more): American Indian or Alaska Native Asian
 Black or African-American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White

Selective Service Registration

I am registered with the Selective Service

I am not required to be registered with the Selective Service because:

I am female

I am in the armed services on active duty (Note: This exception does not apply to members of Reserve and National Guard units who are not active duty).

I have not reached my 18th birthday

I was born before 1960

I am a citizen of the Federated State of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands or a permanent resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Palau)

Citizenship Status (check one)

I am a U.S. Citizen

I am a permanent resident alien

I am a non-U.S. citizen or non-permanent resident alien and possess the following Category of visa (check the one that applies)

B C D F J L M

If you checked any of the visa categories above, you are not eligible for this scholarship.

I certify that I have read and understood the conditions for participation in this program. The information I am supplying in this application is true, complete, and correct. To the best of my knowledge and belief, I am eligible for this program as defined under Florida law.

Name

____/____/____
Date