



Scholarship Application

In an effort to support local communities and the Ceiba Foundation mission, the Ceiba Foundation is proud to announce its inaugural engineering and entrepreneurship scholarship program. The purpose of the scholarship is to support disadvantaged students, and to stimulate innovation and economic growth in Puerto Rico. These scholarships cover full tuition, living expenses and other costs associated with obtaining a degree in engineering at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus.

Description of the scholarship:

The scholarship will provide financial support to Puerto Rican students pursuing undergraduate engineering degrees at Recinto Universitario Mayaguez (RUM). The scholarship will cover all expenses associated with academic studies (i.e., tuition fees, books and materials, etc.) and some life expenses (e.g., food and board). The scholarship will cover said costs for a period of 5 years or less, from entry to graduation. Exceptionally in the 2022-2023 academic years, the scholarship will be awarded to two students – an incoming freshman, and a student who is already enrolled in an engineering undergraduate program at RUM. The scholarship will be awarded based on the following selection criteria:

1. The financial need of the student
2. The academic excellence of the student and their potential for succeeding academically in the field of engineering
3. The interest and potential that the student has for entrepreneurship and/or social entrepreneurship
4. The social commitment of the student to “give back” to Puerto Rico’s more disadvantaged communities and people after the completion of their studies

Thus, the ideal candidate for this scholarship will be a socio-economically disadvantaged, academically talented student who demonstrates a deep social commitment and a strong interest in engineering, scientific scholarship, and entrepreneurship.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must satisfy the following criteria:

- Applicants must have been formally admitted to the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus (first year applicants), and/or be enrolled at the university and have successfully completed their first year of studies. Successful within this context means: (i) applicants have completed all courses required by the Engineering curriculum during the first year, and (ii) applicants have an overall grade point average of 2.5 or higher.
- Applicants for first year scholarships must have maintained a GPA greater than 3.0 in the STEM courses offered at their high schools.
- Applicants must have attended a public high school.
- Applicants must be US citizens.
- Applicants must have been born in Puerto Rico and/or born to parents who were born in Puerto Rico.

Scholarship requirements:

- Upon graduating from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus with a Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Engineering/Computer Science and Entrepreneurship, the recipient of the



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scholarship must sign an agreement that stipulates that they will work for a minimum of three (3) years in Puerto Rico. If they do not work in Puerto Rico for the first three years after graduation, they must pay back the full amount of the scholarship.

- The scholarships are five year scholarships. However, they are renewed on an annual basis based on continued satisfactory academic progress
- Scholarship recipients must remain in good academic and financial standing in accordance with the university's existing requirements
- All students may supplement their scholarships by applying for federal and state financial assistance at any time during their enrollment at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus. If granted such aid, the amounts granted will be deducted from the Ceiba Foundation Scholarship funds, and used solely to support additional students in the scholarship program.

Application Procedures:

- Complete and submit the Ceiba Foundation Online Application
- Achieve formal admission to the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
- Fill out the standard financial aid application of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus (attached to this form in PDF format.)
- Send or upload a copy of your acceptance letter to the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus together with your high school transcripts. For second year students, send your completed first-year transcripts at the university. All documents should be either submitted electronically to submissions@ceibafoundation.org, and/or sent via mail to Ceiba Foundation, Attn: Scholarships, 420 Lakeside Avenue, Suite # 101, Marlborough, MA 01752



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I. Personal Information:

Student ID:

Name:

Last

First

Date of Birth:

Phone:

Email Address:

Campus:

Email correspondence will be sent to the student email address

Place of Birth:

If your place of birth is not Puerto Rico, was your mother or father born in Puerto Rico? :

☐

Yes

☐

No

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip Code

Gender¹:

Spouse or Dependent Information (If applicable):

Are you married?

☐

Yes

☐

No

Do you have anybody who is financially dependent from you?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If one (or more than one) of them is a child: are you a single parent or do you share financial responsibility for this child with another parent or person? (Please explain)

¹ This information will be kept private, and only the Foundation Ceiba and the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus, will have access to this information. Your responses will be kept private and secure. The information will not be used for a discriminatory purpose. You can change this information in the future by contacting the Foundation Ceiba.



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If you are not selected as a recipient of the Ceiba Foundation Scholarship, then, how do you plan on paying next semester's academic expenses?

If you are not selected as a recipient of the Ceiba Foundation Scholarship, then, how do you plan on paying for next semester's life expenses?

II. *Background & Financial Information*

Are you a first-generation high school graduate?

☐

Yes

☐

No

Are you a first-generation college student?

☐

Yes

☐

No

Did your mother graduate from college?

☐

Yes

☐

No

Did your father graduate from college?

☐

Yes

☐

No

Did you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If yes, what is your Expected Family Contribution?

\$



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If no, please explain why you did not file a FAFSA?

What is your work status? (Full time, Part Time, Not Working?)

If working part time: On average, how many hours per week do you work?

III. Academic Information (for 2nd Year Applicants only, go to section III if 1st year applicant)

Student ID:

Major Program/
Degree:

How many credits have you completed?

How many credits are you registering for during the next semester?

If your GPA has fallen below 2.5,
Please explain why



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Upload your academic transcript here (pdf, word files only)

IV. Academic Information (1st year applicant)

Name of your
High School:

GPA:

Upload your academic transcript here (pdf, word files only)

Grade Point Average (GPA) in
STEM courses only:

V. Social Commitment, Entrepreneurship and other activities

Do you have an interest in entrepreneurship? Have you started any small businesses or non-profit organizations? If yes, please describe your efforts in detail.

Please list any volunteer work you have participated in. Include number of years.



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Please list any extracurricular activities you participate in through your community or school (school clubs, sports, etc.) You may include past activities as well. Include number of years.

Fill or Upload File here. (pdf, word only)

Are you a student leader in any club, activity or athletics program at the RUM? If yes, please describe your involvement

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)

VI. Essay Questions:

What goals and ambitions do you have for yourself personally and professionally?

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)



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Pick an experience of adversity from your own life (such as a personal challenge, disability, or family circumstance) and explain how did you managed it and how it has influenced your life moving forward.

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)

Imagine that the university offers you funding to carry out the project of your dreams. What would that project be? Please describe the project, the knowledge and skills in computer science, mathematics and/or entrepreneurship that you would put into practice, and explain why this is what you want to do.

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)

Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about yourself or that you feel we should know?

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)



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VII. Letters of recommendations (up to 3)

Letter of Recommendation # 1

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)

Letter of Recommendation # 2

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)

Letter of Recommendation # 3

Fill or Attach File (pdf, word only)

VIII. Student Acknowledgment:

By submitting this scholarship application, I certify that I am the individual identified in this form and that I am eligible for the scholarship. I authorize the RUM Office of Admission to process this application after they have received the required verification(s). I acknowledge that the information is true and correct.

Signature:

Date:

Note: Digital Signature is acceptable if form is submitted via the email address listed on your application for admission

Please submit the complete form and the required verification documents directly to scholarships@ceibafund.org.