Account Spark STEM Scholarship Fund
Deadline: 11:59 pm on June 16, 2021

About the scholarship

Both founders of Account Spark are first generation Arab Americans who hold education near and dear to their heart. Noor, the CEO of Account Spark was born in Kuwait, and while vacationing with his family in the United States, the Gulf War erupted. As a result, Noor and the Atari family started fresh in the land of opportunity. Noor, who now has more than 15 years experience managing and influencing innovation at technology companies, was a recipient of several scholarships, without which his educational journey would not have been possible. He is inspired by the generous contributions of donors who assisted him, and now aims to pay it forward and assist the next generation of Arab Americans.

It is anticipated that the Account Spark STEM Scholarship will be between $2,500 and $10,000. The scholarship may be renewable for students maintaining satisfactory academic performance. The Fund will make all grant distributions directly to the student's affiliated college or university. All colleges and universities must be accredited and be located within the United States.

Eligibility and requirements

- Be accepted into an undergraduate Data Science or Data Analytics program (including Computer science with a focus on machine learning) at an accredited university in the United States of America
- Be a first or second generation Arab American
- GPA and Test Scores:
    - For incoming freshman, high school GPA of 3.6 or higher; ACT score of 29 or higher (or SAT equivalent)
    - For currently enrolled undergraduate students: cumulative GPA of 3.4 or higher
- List research experience and/or service activities in community, including work done through student organizations
- Agree to provide career data upon graduation

Application:

1. Fill out the application form online:
https://www.centeraap.org/grants/scholarships/account-spark-stem-scholarship-fund/

2. Submit a personal statement, two letters of recommendation from non-family members, an up-to-date Student Aid Report, and a resume or CV through the online form.

Personal Statement
Submit an essay of no more than three 8.5" x 11" typed, double-spaced pages, size 12 font, with 1-inch margins describing the following:
• Career aspirations
• Reasons for choosing your selected major/field
• Your financial need (i.e. are you the first to attend college in your family? Do you have any special circumstances you would like the scholarship committee to consider?)
• How you see yourself contributing in a unique way as an Arab American in a STEM field
• What impact being an Account Spark Scholar would have on you
• Research experience, leadership and volunteer activities in your community and/or school

Student Aid Report (SAR)
Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and upload a PDF copy of your federal SAR with your application.

Letters of Recommendation
Submit 2 non-family letters of recommendation. Each letter must be on official letterhead and signed. Your recommender must explain their relationship to you and provide their contact information within the letter. If your recommenders prefer to deliver their letters directly to the Account Spark Scholarship Committee without you reading them, please instruct them to do so at this link: https://www.centeraap.org/scholarship-letter-of-recommendation-form/

High School or College Transcript
Submit a PDF copy of your high school or most recent college transcript grade report (unofficial OK). Resume or Curriculum Vitae Submit a resume or CV that lists any work and/or volunteer experiences you've had. Also include any honors or awards you have received.

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If you have additional questions, please direct them to mcox@accesscommunity.org