



Application for Scholarships and Financial Aid for AFS Programs Abroad

How to Apply for AFS Financial Aid and Scholarships

Complete the Personal Information and Essay Form (candidate only)

AFS will automatically consider you for any scholarships and aid awards for which you qualify. Additional information on specific scholarships has been included with this application. The personal information and essay help us ensure we have a complete picture of your strengths and interests, beyond what we know from your application. This essay is not required for students applying for the Yoshi Hattori Memorial Scholarship to Japan or for students applying for merit scholarships only, such as Awards for Excellence.

Complete the Personal Financial Information Form 9A

In order to review your application for need-based scholarships, AFS also needs to review detailed information regarding your family finances. The information we request allows us to assess the financial need of each applicant relative to both the cost of the AFS program for which you are applying and the need of other AFS candidates requesting financial assistance. In order for AFS to review all applicants fairly it is necessary that you and your family carefully follow all instructions. When completing Form 9A, please pay special attention to the following:

- Complete all items as applicable.
- Attach copies of the most recent federal and state tax returns from *both parents and/or guardians in the household*; be sure to include copies of your W-2 forms. Be sure to include information on the entire household (both income and expenses) on the form.
- In the event that the parents reside in separate households due to divorce or separation, AFS requests that you indicate the amount to be contributed to the program cost by the parent not residing with the AFS candidate (item 49). This is done rather than attempting to assess ability of the second household to pay based on income and expenses. Alimony and child support payments to the custodial parent are also requested (items 9 and 12).
- Several items (as specified on the form) require that a separate sheet with additional explanation be attached.
- When completing **key financial data** on the first page, be sure to refer to your tax returns for correct figures.
- The column “Estimate of Following Year” is optional. This is provided for your use should you anticipate that either income or expenses will change substantially in the year following that which is reported on your tax forms. Such a change will be taken into account when assessing your financial need.
- Be sure to fully complete the final section of the form entitled, “AFS Program Fee.”

Failure to submit complete forms may jeopardize your application for financial assistance. Please note that you will not receive country, visa or travel information until all forms are completed and submitted to the AFS Admissions Department. If you later decide not to apply for financial aid, please call your Admissions Advisor at 1-800-237-4636 to withdraw your Financial Aid & Scholarship Application.

Submit Completed Forms to the AFS Admissions Department

Your completed Scholarship Financial Aid Application, in addition to your program Application, will be reviewed by the scholarship committee in the Admissions Department. To check on your status or for additional information on available awards, please call your Admissions Advisor at 1-800-237-4636. Once your financial aid application has been reviewed, you will be contacted in writing with the results of the review process.

Applications for financial assistance are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year and assessed through a bi-weekly review process. We urge candidates and their parents to apply as early as possible after having identified their estimated need. The earlier the application is reviewed the larger the pool of aid and scholarship and financial aid sources for which they may qualify. The financial review process lasts between 30 to 60 days from the time AFS receives a complete financial assistance application. Note: AFS cannot evaluate students for financial aid until the full program application has been received and reviewed and a country has been selected. Incomplete paperwork will delay this process and could jeopardize the chances of receiving financial aid.

Personal Information and Essay Form (required)

(Note: Please feel free to submit this information on a separate piece of paper. Please do not exceed two typewritten double-spaced pages.) This essay is not required for students applying for the Yoshi Hattori Memorial Scholarship to Japan, or students applying for merit scholarships only such as the Awards for Excellence.

Candidate's Name

City

State

- 1. Please list your community service activities and the amount of time you spend on them each week. Include any activities that you have done in the past.*

- 2. Please discuss your interest in your first choice country and its culture.*

- 3. Discuss how you view the responsibility of an AFS student as an ambassador of your country.*

- 4. Please indicate how you and your family plan to finance the remainder of the AFS program fee. Include plans for fundraising in addition to family and parent contributions and employment.*

Signature of candidate

Date

Personal Financial Information (required)

Candidate's Name _____ City _____ State _____

Complete all items as applicable and enclose copies of tax returns with attachments (include federal and state returns as well as W-2 forms) from the most recent year reported. Also attach a separate page with itemizations and explanations for any amounts entered on lines 11,12,17 and 24. Remember to include information on the total household, including the combined income of both parents and/or guardians. In the event of divorce and remarriage, this should include the income of the custodial parent's spouse.

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s)	
Mother/Legal Guardian 1	Father/Legal Guardian 2
1a Name: _____	1b Name: _____
2a Employer: _____	2b Employer: _____
3a Occupation: _____	3b Occupation: _____
4a Years with: _____	4b Years with: _____
5a Telephone: _____	5b Telephone: _____

KEY FINANCIAL DATA		Last Reported Tax Year	Estimate of Following Year (Optional)
Income and Taxes (Annual)			
6	Gross salary/wages of mother or legal guardian 1 (before deductions)		
7	Gross salary/wages of father or legal guardian 2 (before deductions)		
8	Interest income or dividends		
9	Alimony received		
10	Net profit or loss from business or farm		
11	Other taxable income:		
12	Nontaxable income (child support, Social Security benefits, other):		
13	Subtotal (add lines 6 through 12)		
14	Federal income tax paid		
15	Social Security and Medicare tax paid		
16	State and local income tax paid		
17	Other taxes/adjustments to income:		
18	Subtotal (add lines 14 through 17)		
19	NET INCOME (subtract line 18 from line 13)		
Expenses (Annual)			
20	Mortgage/rent payments (include taxes and insurance)		
21	Medical/dental expenses <u>not covered</u> by insurance		
22	Car loan(s) payments and insurance		
23	Public transport commuting expenses <u>related to work or school</u>		
24	Extraordinary expenses not part of normal family or home maintenance:		
25	ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE (\$2,600 per household member) Number of household members <input type="text"/> x \$2,600		
26	TOTAL EXPENSES (add lines 20 through 25)		
27	ADJUSTED NET INCOME (subtract line 26 from line 19)		

Personal Financial Information (required)

AFS Candidate Earnings		Currently
28	Does the candidate work? ___Yes ___No If yes, where?	
29	What are the candidate's average weekly earnings?	
30	Until what date does the candidate plan to continue to work?	
31	How much does the candidate have in checking and savings?	

Household Education Expenses (excluding AFS candidate)		Annual*
* For the twelve months beginning with the planned month of departure on the AFS program. Enter the total costs before any financial assistance you may receive is applied.		
32	Number of children in household EXCLUDING AFS candidate	
33	Number of children attending college/university EXCLUDING AFS candidate	
34	What are the estimated household tuition & enrollment fees (EXCLUDING those associated with the AFS candidate)?	
35	Is the AFS candidate applying for a short summer program AND attending a private secondary school or a college/university upon returning from the AFS program?	Yes No
35a	What are the estimated tuition & enrollment fees of the AFS candidate in the year following his/her return from the summer program?	

Additional Financial Background		Currently
36	Do you own your home?	Yes No
36a	What year was it purchased and at what price? Year: _____ Price \$	
36b	What is the unpaid mortgage amount?	\$
36c	What is the current resale value?	\$
37	What other real estate do you own?: _____	
38	What is the present value of this real estate?	\$
39	What is the total value of all other investments?	\$
40	What is the total amount held in <u>all</u> bank accounts?	\$
41	What is your total consumer indebtedness?	\$
42	Other debts (excluding auto loans)? Explain:	\$
43	How many automobiles do you own?	
44a	Make, model, year Amount owed	\$
44b	Make, model, year Amount owed	\$
44c	Make, model, year Amount owed	\$

AFS Program Fee		Budget
45	How much do parents/guardians in the household plan to pay towards the program fee?	\$
46	Have AFS volunteers been consulted about chapter/area aid? ___Yes ___No	
47	Has the candidate been offered chapter/area aid? ___Yes ___No If yes, amount	\$
48	How much does the candidate plan to raise independently? (exclude earnings in line 29)	\$
49	If parents are divorced/separated, contribution of non-custodial parent	\$
50	Other sources of support? _____	\$
51	How much financial assistance do you hope to obtain from AFS?	\$

Signature of Mother/Legal Guardian 1	

Signature of Father/Legal Guardian 2	

Signature of Candidate	