Freshman Academic Scholarships | FAQs

Q: When will I know if I get a freshman academic scholarship?
   A: Freshman academic scholarships are called Academic Excellence. Students will receive
      the first round of scholarship and financial aid award notifications by January of student’s
      senior year.

Q: If I take the December ACT or SAT, will it count for scholarships?
   A: Scores from the December test date will be used to update student scholarship offers if
      they were admitted by December 1st and submit their updated test scores by February 1st.
      Letters will be sent in February. We will not accept scores after the December test date.

Q: If I want to apply for Luckyday Foundation Citizenship Scholarship or Honors College
   Achievement Awards, what do I need to do?
   A: You can apply online at www.usmfoundation.com/go starting September 1. Visit the
      Office of Undergraduate Scholarships’ website: FAQs and University Resources for
      helpful instructions.

Q: I have questions about Luckyday Foundation Citizenship Scholarship or Honors College
   Achievement Awards, who should I ask?
   A. It’s always best to start with your admissions counselor in the Office of Admissions.
      Click here to find your local recruiter. You can also call the Luckyday Scholars
      Program or the Honors College at:
      Office of Admissions | 601-266-5000
      Luckyday Scholars Program | 601-266-5981
      Honors College | 61-266-4533

Q: Will I be considered for freshman scholarships if I am admitted after December 1?
   A: Students admitted after the December 1 deadline will not be considered for
      freshman scholarships: Academic, Competitive, or Designation-Based.

Q: Will you superscore my ACT/SAT?
   A: The University of Southern Mississippi does not super score.

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Q: I was selected to receive a scholarship. How do I keep it?
A: Your scholarship packet will include a stipulation agreement outlining how you will maintain your scholarship(s). Make sure you keep this stipulation agreement while you are attending The University of Southern Mississippi.

Q: If I receive the Luckyday Foundation Citizenship Scholarship, can I stack it with an Academic Excellence offer?
A: Yes, you can stack Luckyday Foundation Citizenship Scholarship with Academic Excellence.

Q: Do all scholarships stack?
A: Most freshman scholarships will stack, up to cost of attendance. However, students receiving the Honors College Achievement Scholarships and National Merit Scholarships cannot stack with the Academic Excellence Scholarship. The Mississippi state governing board, IHL, does not allow students to receive two scholarships for the same designation (ex: two tuition or housing scholarships).

Q: Do I have to complete a FAFSA?
A: A FAFSA is required to receive all undergraduate scholarships. Remember, students must be admitted by December 1 and the Southern Miss priority deadline for financial aid is December 15.

Q: Do I have to apply for freshman scholarships?
A: For all freshman scholarships, students must be admitted by December 1. Academic Scholarships: No, students will be automatically considered for the Academic Excellence Scholarship. Competitive Scholarships: Yes, students must apply for competitive scholarships by January 5. Designation-Based Scholarships: Yes, students must apply and submit official documentation by July 1.

Q: Does dual enrollment hours impact my eligibility for freshman scholarships?
A: No, freshman scholarships are available to students the fall semester immediately following high school graduation. If you attend summer school after your high school graduation but enroll and attend at The University of Southern Mississippi that fall semester, you will be considered for freshman scholarships.

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