



Scholarship 2024-2025 Report



USFFSO@usf.edu



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USF Foundation

UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA

Thank You From the USF Foundation

Scholarships play a crucial role in the lives of many USF students. Without this support, students may need to delay their education, take on significant debt or juggle multiple jobs to afford college. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, scholarships ease that financial strain for many of our Bulls, allowing them to concentrate on their studies and engage in meaningful experiences like internships, research and extracurricular activities.

Your support empowers students to pursue their academic goals, embrace the full college experience and unlock their potential. We are deeply grateful to every donor who makes these opportunities possible.

Thank you for investing in the future of our Bulls.

Sincerely,
Jay Stroman
CEO, USF Foundation

Scholarships by the NUMBERS

\$16,191,160
Scholarship Dollars
Raised

\$11,700,232
Awarded in
Scholarships

\$2,907
Average Award
per Student

101
Scholarships
established
during the
year

\$26,516
Annual Cost of Attendance for
Florida Resident, Undergraduate,
Living on Campus

2024-25 statistics



Scholarships Create LEGACY: The Aripoli Scholars Program

When Don and Becky Aripoli established the Helios/ Dominick and Emelene Aripoli Scholars program in 2005, they didn't just want to fund education — they wanted to build a family.

“The reason I want them to feel like they're part of the family is because they are,” says Don Aripoli. “Watching the students grow up makes me feel like I'm doing something meaningful, with Helios' backing to support this program.”

Funded in partnership with the Helios Education Foundation, where Aripoli serves as a founding board member, the scholarship honors his parents while supporting first-generation students at the University of South Florida. Each year, a new freshman scholar is welcomed into the program, receiving continued support through graduation. But more than that, they are embraced as members of a growing, intergenerational community that gathers annually to celebrate progress, mentorship and shared success.

“I love seeing them come back after graduation and share what they've done,” Aripoli says. “It's not just about getting a degree — it's about helping them find their voice and their place in the world.”

Over the last two decades, 25 students have joined the Aripoli Scholars family. They've gone on to careers in education, media, finance, medicine and more, each carrying with them the impact of a scholarship gift rooted in care and connection.

“Being around Don and people who are successful in the community is the kind of fuel and inspiration to help you continue on in your work,” says Farah Vickery, '12 and MA '17, a scholar who won an Emmy Award for her work with PBS. “It's reassuring that you're doing something right if you've earned a spot next to these people.”

To honor his parents, Aripoli keeps their memory alive through desserts offered at the annual dinners: a pineapple upside-down cake for his father, and a devil's food cake with sour cream icing for his mother. It's a personal touch that reminds every scholar where the program began.

“Those cakes are a tribute,” he says, “but also a symbol — of where we come from, and the values we pass on.”

Through the Aripoli Scholars program, Don and Becky Aripoli have created more than a scholarship — they've created a legacy. “I see myself in every one of these students,” says Aripoli. “They're part of my family now. That's the real reward.”

USF Foundation Scholarship Office EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



USF Day at Arthrex

Scholarship recipients from the University of South Florida recently traveled to Naples, Florida, for USF Day at Arthrex, where they participated in an immersive experience at Arthrex's global headquarters. This unique opportunity allowed students to explore how Arthrex is living its mission of Helping Surgeons Treat Their Patients Better®.

Throughout the visit, students engaged directly with Arthrex team members to learn about a wide range of career paths, as well as internship and co-op opportunities. They also gained insight into the company's mission-driven culture and how its values instill pride and purpose across the organization.

A guided tour of the state-of-the-art campus offered a behind-the-scenes look at Arthrex's cutting-edge innovations and the role they play in improving the lives of millions of patients worldwide.

Arthrex is a proud partner of USF and several other leading universities. Through the Arthrex Scholars Program, launched at USF during the 2022-2023 school year, the company has awarded scholarships to more than 100 students — helping reduce the burden of student debt and supporting academic success.

Thank you to Arthrex for your continued commitment to creating transformative educational and career opportunities for USF students.



Nathaniel and Barbara Pieper Scholarship Luncheon

As part of our ongoing commitment to building meaningful connections between donors and students, the USF Foundation Scholarship Office hosted the Nathaniel and Barbara Pieper Scholarship Luncheon at the Sam and Martha Gibbons Alumni Center. This special gathering brought together the Piepers and their current scholarship recipients for the 2024-2025 academic year in an intimate setting. Scholars had the chance to share their goals, challenges and achievements directly with the individuals investing in their futures.

At the heart of the Foundation's stewardship efforts is the belief that one-on-one interactions between donors and students help strengthen the impact of giving.

Events like this luncheon allow donors to see firsthand the difference their generosity makes, while students gain a deeper appreciation for those who support their academic journey.

"Nat and I so enjoyed the opportunity to meet and visit with our students," shared Barbara Pieper. "What delightful and impressive young people! Their futures are certainly bright in large part due to the opportunities afforded to them as USF students. We so look forward to hearing where their paths lead them. Being with them certainly reconfirmed our commitment to helping students at USF."

The USF Foundation Scholarship Office remains dedicated to fostering relationships that go beyond financial support — cultivating personal connections that inspire and encourage student success.

Inaugural Scholarship Application Workshop

The USF Foundation Scholarship Office, in collaboration with the Center for Career & Professional Development and the Writing Studio, proudly hosted the inaugural Scholarship Application Workshop — an event designed to equip students with the tools and support they need to craft compelling personal statements, essays and resumes for Foundation scholarship applications.

The workshop offered students hands-on guidance to enhance the quality of their applications and increase their chances of securing funding for their education. Attendees had the unique opportunity to hear directly from Cindy Kane, a dedicated USF Foundation Board member and generous donor who shared her personal commitment to supporting student success.

Kane offered valuable insight into the impact of giving and encouraged students to see their educational journey as a partnership with the community that believes in them.

Kane moderated a panel discussion featuring three Foundation scholarship recipients, who shared their journeys to earning scholarships and the lessons learned beyond financial aid, including the significance of building meaningful relationships with donors and giving back through service and engagement.

"This workshop was full of information, and I appreciate the opportunity to meet students and exchange experiences that may assist them. My interactions with students have been a life changer for me and is the reason I stay committed to USF. As a lifelong learner, education is one of the most important gifts you can give." - Cindy Kane

Voices of GRATITUDE:

Messages From Our Grateful Bulls



Sydney Haynes
2025

The David and Teresa Sturgill Scholarship

"My scholarship gave me a community to join while also helping me be able to stay in college and complete my degree with much less worry over finances; allowing me to fully dedicate myself to my education and making the most of my college life."



Julia Maggio
2029

Pat and Frank Harvey Endowed Scholarship Program

"This scholarship has allowed me to have time to be part of sports clubs and engineering clubs instead of working for more money. It has given me time to pursue my personal interests like ultimate frisbee and given me the opportunity to be a leader. I'm the vice president for the women's ultimate frisbee team!"



Shambria Campbell
2025

Jay Oklu & Lisa Spagnuolo Endowed Opportunity Scholarship

"Receiving a scholarship taught me the value of perseverance and self-belief. Knowing that others recognized my potential and invested in my future motivated me to push beyond my comfort zone, take on challenges and hold myself to higher standards — academically and personally."



Salud Villafuerte
2026

Sanford & Gertrude Hauber Scholarship Fund & Helios Education Foundation Diversity Scholarship

"Due to this scholarship, I understand that I need to perform well in school. This has led to personal growth as I strive to be the best version of myself that I can. I have been able to obtain the full college experience since I have been able to meet new people and stay focused academically without great financial stress."



Emma Maggio
2028

Pat and Frank Harvey Endowed Scholarship Program

"This scholarship has enabled me to devote more time to extracurriculars and organizations that enrich my college experience. Participating in these activities has given me the opportunity to learn from my peers and professionals in my field. Being able to devote more time to academics has lessened the pressures of college."



Matthew Bernadice
2025

The David and Teresa Sturgill Scholarship

"My scholarship support has greatly improved my ability to succeed by removing financial challenges and validated my ambition to continue growing myself academically and professionally. I'm on track to graduate with a GPA over 3.0, which is my proudest accomplishment."



Vallerye Rivera Aldea
2026

Raymund Endowed Scholarship

"This scholarship has contributed a lot to my personal growth and development. It has helped me understand I am not alone and there are people out there who support me. I feel like I have grown professionally and personally a lot from the moment I started attending USF and receiving all this support. I hope one day I have the opportunity to help other students as well because I know this can change someone's life the way it changed mine."



Annalise O'Brien
2028

USF Foundation Endowed Scholarship

"The scholarship I earned at USF has allowed me to focus more on academics and less on the financial burdens associated with school. It helped me appreciate my education more and work harder to achieve academically. My overall college experience is more positive because of the support I received."



Nadia Rohani
2026

Michael Henry Peck Endowed STEM Scholarship

"Receiving this scholarship has made the financial stress that has come with college so much easier. Coming from a low-income family with a disabled father, money is often tight, so contributions like this help exponentially."



Jennifer Lopez
2026

Nathaniel and Barbara Pieper Scholarship

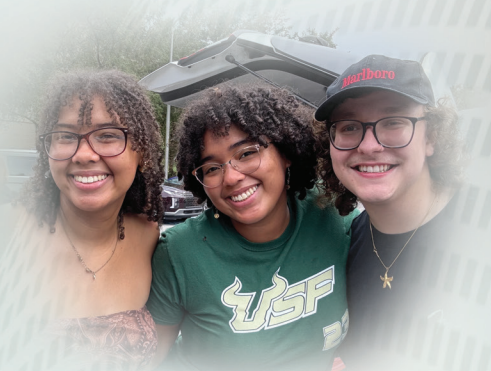
"Beyond financial support, the scholarship opened doors to mentorship, networking events and academic enrichment programs. I've connected with inspiring faculty and fellow scholars who've helped shape my goals and broaden my horizons. It also gave me a sense of belonging and validation — knowing that someone believed in my potential enough to invest in it."



Gabriella Ramirez
2025

George R. Greene Endowed Scholarship

"My scholarship has had a positive influence on my college experience. It has allowed me to focus on my studies, giving me more motivation to excel and keep my grades up, improving my study habits and confidence as a person. I am grateful to have received it."



Marland Medina Medina
2027

Michael Hartley Endowed Memorial Scholarship

"This scholarship has truly alleviated worry of not being able to afford college. I am so very grateful for the help, because it allows me to focus 100% on my classes and get stellar grades. I am very thankful for my donors. I truly couldn't have done this without their support!"



Michael McCool
2026

Arthrex Scholars Program

"Scholarship assistance has alleviated my financial burden by reducing the amount I have to work and the amount of my savings I must use to pay tuition. It has allowed me more freedom to enjoy my time at college, spend more time in clubs, and I was able to attend EMT school!"

Thanks to your incredible generosity, USF awarded
14,368 DEGREES

this year, helping dedicated Bulls cross the finish line and turn their dreams into reality.
Your scholarship support doesn't just open doors — it empowers ambition,
transforms lives and shapes the leaders of tomorrow.

