

Deferral Options and Requirements

Reasons and Purpose of a Deferment

A deferment is used to put a student's Centennial Scholarship "on hold for a period of time as allowed for in statute" (https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title53A/Chapter15/53A-15-S102.html?v=C53A-15-S102_2017050920170701). Students may submit a deferment request if they have applied for the scholarship, but will not attend an eligible college the following semester immediately after graduating from high school. A deferment is typically used when one is serving in the military, has a major medical issue, or for humanitarian/religious service reasons. ***Deferment requests for reasons such as traveling, attending a non-eligible college/university, or working to save money will not be approved.*** Requests for a deferment are evaluated on a case-by-case basis, with no guarantee of approval. The Centennial scholarship will expire five years from the date of high school graduation, even if a student is granted a deferment

Applying for a Deferment

After the applicant applies for the Centennial Scholarship, an initial review is conducted by a counselor at the Local Education Agency (LEA) level to determine if the applicant is on-track to meet the scholarship qualifications). If an applicant is found to be on-track for a scholarship, they are required to submit documents verifying that all requirements were, in fact, met. Students who request a deferment must include supporting documentation related to the request. See the information below for further guidelines and details about what documentation must be submitted.

Deferment for Medical Reasons

- **Required Supporting Document:** Applicants must provide a formal doctor's note on letterhead describing the circumstances which prevent them from meeting the scholarship requirements. The note also needs to have the doctor's recommendation regarding the applicant's academics. Information related to the medical condition must be current (less than 3 months old).
- **Deferment requests related to medical reasons are approved for one semester at a time.**

Deferment for Religious Service

Required Supporting Document: Applicants must submit a letter from the appropriate religious leader on official letterhead stating the length of time they will be gone and the service they will be participating in. This letter needs to include details regarding the service they will be providing. Applicants who are not entering religious service until after December 1 must enroll in fall classes to maintain the scholarship.

Deferment for Humanitarian Service

- **Required Supporting Document:** Applicants must submit a letter from the program on official letterhead stating the length of time they will be gone and the service they will be participating in. This letter needs to include details regarding the service they will be providing.

Deferment for Military Service

- **Required Supporting Document:** Applicants must submit a copy of his/her military orders that state the length of time they will be gone and the date they will report for service.

Deferment Expiration

A deferment will expire on the first date of the semester immediately following the conclusion of religious, humanitarian, or military service.