

Volunteer and Donor FAQ

GENERAL

What is the Esperanza Education Fund?

The Esperanza Education Fund is a volunteer-led scholarship program providing funds for immigrants and the children of immigrants in the Washington Metropolitan Area to attend community college and four-year universities.

Who does Esperanza support?

Esperanza supports immigrants and the children of immigrants whose households make less than \$100,000 per year. Importantly, Esperanza is status-blind: US citizens, legal residents, and undocumented immigrants are all equally eligible for funds.

How does Esperanza select scholarship recipients?

Esperanza has a comprehensive set of criteria to select scholars, you can find selection criteria on our website [here](#).

All eligible applications submitted by April 1 will be read by multiple judges. The top 16-24 applicants will be invited to interview. A panel of approximately five to seven judges will interview the finalists and select the top 8-12 to receive scholarships.

How much does it cost to fund a scholarship student?

Every donation supports scholarships and comprehensive programming and events for Esperanza scholars. The maximum scholarship that Esperanza awards to one scholar is \$20,000 (distributed over four years of school).

- **\$5,000** – sponsors first academic year
- **\$10,000 - \$15,000** – sponsors first two academic years
- **\$20,000** – sponsors four-year degree

What is Esperanza's EIN code?

Esperanza's Employer Identification Number, or EIN, is 26-4035461. We are a non-profit, tax-exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

How can I receive a tax receipt for my donation?

You can request your tax receipt by writing to info@esperanzafund.org.

Volunteering

How can I get involved with Esperanza?

Become a Mentor. Because we know getting through college requires more than money, we match scholars with local mentors who are passionate about supporting students throughout their college education and serving as an additional resource to navigate college and the challenges they will face in their personal and professional development. Find out more on our [Mentor FAQ page](#).

Participate at Career Day. Each March, Esperanza asks its community of volunteers to provide students with a day of professional development opportunities, such as career roundtables, educational sessions, resumé review and mock interviews for our scholars.

Present at a Virtual Scholar Meet-Up. Do you have expertise that you'd like to share with our scholars? Conduct a workshop, table session, or webinar during an evening scholar meet-up and help our scholars build valuable life and professional skills.

Join our Monthly Meetings. If you want to learn more about Esperanza and how you might contribute to the organization, attend our monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm ET. You'll hear the most up-to-date information on our organization and scholars, and learn what it's like to be part of our volunteer leadership.

Sign up for our Newsletter. Learn more about our scholars, recent activities, fundraisers and volunteer opportunities by signing up to receive our monthly newsletter. Once on our mailing list, you will also receive emails for special campaigns and fundraisers to support throughout the year.

Host a Read-a-thon. Lead a group of coworkers, friends, and others in a Read-a-thon as part of our scholarship selection process. Each group will read and score scholarship applications and help us move scholars to the next round of qualification.

Become a Donor

How can I get involved with Esperanza?

Donate to our Scholarship Fund. Each year, Esperanza awards \$50,000 - \$100K in scholarships. Each donation helps support scholars and provides them with mentorship and professional development opportunities.

Sponsor a Scholar and Have a Scholarship Named after you. With donations of \$5,000 and up, donors may name the scholarship. After the selection committee has chosen the new scholar cohort, the donor may choose from these scholars to name as their scholar recipient.

Become a Recurring Donor. Sign up and support us year-round with monthly recurring donations of \$10, \$20, or \$25.

Sponsor an Event. We welcome donations, sponsorships, and donated activity space to host our scholar events throughout the year.

Create a Donor Matching Campaign. Many companies and organizations encourage charitable giving. Ask your workplace if they will match your donation!