getting started

what are the qualifications for interested applicants?
• the scholarship award is available to both undergraduates and graduates.
• undergraduate applicants must be junior standing or above when applying and must be of senior standing for the 2019-2020 academic year.
• undergraduate and graduate students must be studying in chemical engineering, material science or engineering, mechanical engineering, metallurgical engineering, environmental engineering, or chemistry.
• the applicant must be attending an accredited college. there are no geographic limitations. both national and international applicants are urged to apply.

what is the amount of the award?
undergraduate and graduate awards are $1,500.00 USD.

what is the deadline, and when will the winners be notified?
The deadline for submitting applications is February 6, 2019. The AESF Foundation will notify the award winners by February 28, 2019.

Can an undergraduate scholarship award winner of two years reapply for a graduate scholarship?
Yes, an undergraduate winner can reapply as a graduate student.

Is financial need a factor?
No, the Scholarship Board does not base their decision on financial need.

Is there a minimum GPA requirement?
Yes, for undergraduate applicant, GPA should be 3.0 or above; for graduate applicant, GPA should be 3.3 or above.

Does the student receive the money, or does it go directly to the school?
The AESF Foundation will send awards directly to the college or university, to be credited to the recipient’s account.

Does receiving an award affect a student’s scholarship?
No, college and university departments are requested not to reduce federal, state or institutional support for students who receive AESF Foundation Scholarships.
The Application

Where can an applicant obtain an application?
The scholarship application form is downloadable from NASF.org/scholarship.

What items does an applicant need to include in an application?
• A statement describing the applicant's career objective and an intended plan of study and/or research in plating and surface finishing science and engineering (Limit: 2 typed pages).
• A resume detailing the applicant's academic achievements (Limit: 2 typed pages).
• Two recommendation letters from professors and, if working in a company, employers. Note that one letter must be from an academic advisor.
• An official copy of the most recent undergraduate or graduate transcript (to be sealed by the academic institution where the applicant attends)
Please note: All documents must be in English or have an English translation attached.

How will an application be judged?
Applicants are judged on the four major factors: (1) academic record, (2) personal statement, (3) working experience, and (4) extracurricular activities.
Note that if an applicant proposes a research project, make sure to clearly state the project objective, approach, and anticipated results.

Where should an application package be submitted?
Application packages (including a completed application form and all requested materials) should be mailed to:

The AESF Foundation
Attn: Scholarship
1800 M Street, Suite 400 S
Washington, D.C. 20036

Advice from Past Scholarship Winners

“Attend conferences and research symposiums. This helps you appreciate the scope and applications of your research work. This experience will also help you understand what you want later in your professional life.”

Anand Durairajan, Graduate Scholarship Award Winner

“Take more chemistry (especially organic) and push instructors to incorporate finishing requirements in design classes! You'll never regret understanding more about how to properly design things so they don't corrode and fail. Furthermore, many times considerable costs savings can be realized if the finish was incorporated initially with the design.”

Matthew Lindstedt, Undergraduate Scholarship Award Winner