

Walker Institute Student Scholarship FAQ

Can I apply for more than one scholarship?

Yes, you can apply for more than one of the following scholarships: The International Experience Scholarship, The Ceney Walker Undergraduate Scholarship, The Ceney Walker Graduate Scholarship Award, The Islamic World Studies Program Graduate Scholarship, The Li-Ching Graduate Scholarship, and The Seung Yeun Kim Dissertation Scholarship during the academic year. Please note that if you apply for a scholarship and the Student Scholarship Committee determines that your application fits better in another scholarship category, the Committee will put your application with the category that fits your application the best. If you apply to more than one scholarship during one academic year, you will only receive one award.

Can I apply for a scholarship more than once?

Yes, if you won a scholarship the previous academic year, you can apply for the same (or another scholarship) in the next academic year. Student scholarships are given once an academic year.

How many awards are you giving out every year?

For the International Experience Scholarship, approximately 6 awards will be given. For the Ceney Walker Undergraduate Scholarship, up to 4 awards will be given. For the Ceney Walker Graduate Scholarship, approximately 8 awards will be given, for the Islamic World Studies Program Graduate Scholarship; the Li-Ching Graduate Scholarship and the Seung Yeun Kim Dissertation Scholarship these awards depend on funding. Please keep an eye out on our website if the 3 awards mentioned are being funded for the current academic year.

Is it easy to win a Walker Institute Student Scholarship?

No, the scholarship process is very competitive. Every application is compared to the others applying for each specific award. For example, if you are applying for the International Experience Scholarship, your application will be compared to the other peers who have also applied for that scholarship.

How do you choose a scholarship winner?

All applications are reviewed by a 3-person Student Awards Committee and then the Director of Walker Institute will also review.

When will I find out if I have received the scholarship?

It takes the Award Committee approximately 1 month or longer to review all applications and make decisions. You will receive your answer in an official letter by the Walker Institute in the mail. You can also check our website that will show the winners under the News column on the main page once the award letters are mailed.

What Components does my application need to have?

Every student scholarship application has a checklist that every student should follow. Incomplete applications will not be accepted/evaluated. Students should review the link on the scholarship application page that has all of the necessary proposal components, the Committee has outlined what questions your proposal needs to answer and has also provided information on how to write your proposal.

Do I need an official academic transcript?

No, you can print out your unofficial transcript from my.sc.edu. Walker Institute would like to have only USC transcripts; other school transcripts are not required but will be accepted.

Walker Institute

of International and Area Studies

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

I am a graduate student; do I need to submit my academic transcript for my undergraduate degree as well?

Yes, submit both, your graduate work here at USC and that of your undergraduate career.

I need help with my budget! What should it look like?

Examples of former scholarship winners proposals and budgets can be viewed at the Walker Institute office Monday-Friday, 9am until 4pm. The copies cannot leave the office nor can photographs be taken of these copies, but you are more than welcome to review them and take notes in the office.

How will I receive the awarded funds?

- **For undergraduate student's** awards will be deposited in the students account that is located in the Bursar's Office at USC. The undergraduate students must be enrolled in order to access these scholarship funds. For an example, if you are enrolled during the fall, spring, and summer the funds will be accessible to you each term that you are enrolled. If you are not enrolled during a term, such as summer, you will not be able to access the funds during that summer term. Student awarded funds will be allocated by the end of the spring semester into the students Bursar's account. If you have a balance with the Bursar and your awarded funds are deposited into your student account, the amount that was due to the University will decrease with the amount of the award (for the award will absorb the fees associated with your account). To find out how you can clear your balance so that your scholarship award will not be used up due to your balance, contact the Bursar's Office for further assistance. Once the scholarship funds are in your Bursar's account, you will receive a refund check in the amount of the available funds remaining in your account. ***Please note: if you have an outstanding balance in your USC Bursar account, the awarded funds will absorb any fees that your account has incurred.***
- **For graduate students** travel grant will only be in the form of a travel authorization through the University. Graduate students must request to file a travel authorization through The Walker Institute prior to their travel date. In most cases our Institute will book and pay for the flight and/or mileage in advance and registration/conference fees if applicable. All other expenditures that are incurred by the graduate student during the travel will be reimbursed to the student in a check form once all of the original receipts have been submitted to The Walker Institute within 5 days of the graduate student's return. If original receipts are not submitted funds will not be reimbursed.