



OUR COMMUNITY. OUR MOUNTAINS. OUR FUTURE.

EpicPromise Foundation Educational Grants | Frequently Asked Questions

The EpicPromise Foundation has two programs within Educational Grants: *Educational Ascent Grants* and *EpicPromise Scholars*.

For Vail Resorts Employees: *Educational Ascent Grants*

Q: Who is eligible to apply?

The application is open to any employee or anyone with SIS status whose annual household income is below:

- *One person in household*: US\$72,360 (refer to the [Income Qualifications](#) for households with more than one individual)
- Income will be verified through previous year's tax returns and with Vail Resorts human resources.

Q: What is covered under *Educational Ascent Grants*?

- Employees or those with SIS status can apply for one course, per semester
- Coursework covered by the grant must be completed before applicant can apply again
- Grants will cover the cost of tuition and fees for one class (up to US\$2,500)
- Coursework must be for a certificate or degree program

Q: How do I apply?

The application is online at www.epicpromise.com and is available on both desktop and mobile. In order to submit your application you must answer all questions including the personal essay and proof of meeting the financial requirements.

Educational Ascent Grants will be awarded three times each year. Applications must be received by November 8, April 9 and July 10 for consideration.

Applications can only be completed through our online database. Instructions are found at www.epicpromise.com. Email all questions to epicpromise@vailresorts.com

Q: What else is required as part of the application?

If the financial requirement is met, the committee will consider the following elements to determine grant awards:

- **Personal Essay.** This should emphasize your community involvement and how the course/program will help you personally and professionally.
- **Detailed schooling plan.** You should provide the name of the degree, a copy of the certificate program requirements from the participating institution or a letter from the head of department/counselor. You can supply any other documents verifying the degree/certificate roadmap.
- **Letters of recommendation.** You will be required to submit two letters of recommendation. One from your supervisor with the Company and one other personal/professional letter of recommendation. Letters of recommendation from family members and partners will not be permitted.
- **ALL DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED AS A .PDF or WORD DOCUMENT.**

Q: Can I apply for a grant if I am not yet enrolled?

No. You must be enrolled for your course and name your partnering educational institution at the time of application.

Q: Will everyone who applies and is qualified receive an *Educational Ascent Grant*?

No, the process is competitive. Based on the rules of the Internal Revenue Service, only 10 percent of those who apply and are eligible may receive grants.

The only exception to the 10 percent-rule are grants to those who want assistance as they pursue a GED/HSE program or to participate in an ESL program.

Q: I want to get my GED or take a GED or ESL class. How do I get a grant?

We have not yet launched that program but expect to have it in place in January 2017.

Q. Who is responsible for approving grant applications?

The EpicPromise Foundation Board of Directors has appointed an educational grants committee. This committee will be comprised of non-executive Vail Resorts employees from across the Company and will be responsible for reviewing applications and determining all awardees.

Q: How is a successful grant fulfilled?

All grant monies are sent directly to the participating institution. Grant monies will not be sent to individuals directly.

Q: Who can I speak with to determine if I am eligible or to seek assistance on completing the application?

Potential applicants are encouraged to email epicpromise@vailresorts.com with all questions and for assistance with the application process.

Q: I work at a Vail Resorts company outside the United States. Do I qualify?

No. Educational grants are only available to employees in United States.

For children of Employees and those with SIS Status: *EpicPromise Scholars*

For years, Vail Resorts has provided scholarships to children of Vail Resorts' employees, focused in the mountain communities where we operate. In the last ten years, these scholarships helped nearly 350 students as they pursue their educational dreams. ***NEW*** this season, the dependents of Whistler Blackcomb employees will be eligible for the program.

Q: Who is eligible to apply?

Children (up to age 26) of a United States or Canadian based employee or those United States or Canadian persons with SIS status who are pursuing post-secondary education and whose household income is below:

- *One person in household:* US\$72,360 (refer to the [Income Qualifications](#) for households with more than one individual)
- Income will be verified through previous year's tax returns and with Vail Resorts human resources.

Q: What is covered under this grant?

- US\$2,500 per year for up to four years
- Renewable for three years, based on maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0. Scholarships will not exceed US\$10,000 over the course of four years.

Q: How do I apply?

The application is online at www.epicpromise.com and is available on both desktop and mobile. You must answer all questions and include all required documentation.

Applications must be received by February 1, 2018. Applicants will be notified as part of their school awards process and grants will be announced in conjunction with other scholarship announcements through your high school. If you are not currently in school, you will be notified in May.

Q: What else is required as part of the application?

If the financial requirement is met, the application will take into the consideration the following:

- FAFSA- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (more info at www.fafsa.gov)
- Personal Essay. This will mirror the current year's common application essay.
- GPA- A minimum GPA of 3.0 (non-weighted) is required.
- 40 hours of community service in the last 4 years
- An in person interview conducted with members of the local Epic Promise team. These will take place in the Fall and Winter
- Supplemental materials may be submitted at your discretion, including:
 - Academic honors
 - Employment history
 - Extracurricular activities
- **ALL DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED AS A .PDF or WORD DOCUMENT.**

Q: Can I apply for a grant if I am not yet enrolled?

Yes. For an *EpicPromise Scholars* grant you can apply without being enrolled. Your grant is dependent on enrolling and will be fulfilled directly with your educational institution.

Q: Will everyone who applies and is qualified receive an *EpicPromise Scholars* grant?

No. The process is competitive. Based on the rules of the Internal Revenue Service, only 25 percent of those who apply and are eligible can receive an Epic Scholars grant.

Q: I want to get my GED or take an ESL class. How do I get a grant?

A GED/HSE and ESL grant program for children of our employees is something we hope to offer in future years.

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[Click here for more information about the EpicPromise Foundation](#)