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Contact Details

www.epicpromise.com

epicpromise@vailresorts.com

Programs

What education grants do you offer?

The EpicPromise Employee Foundation offers two educational grants: 1) **Educational Ascent Grant**, which is for Vail Resorts employees and 2) **EpicPromise Scholars Grant**, which is for the dependents of Vail Resorts employees.

EpicPromise Scholars Grant

What is the EpicPromise Scholars Grant?

The EpicPromise Scholars Grant is a **US\$2,500 per year** scholarship for up to **four years** of post-secondary education,* *inclusive of vocational degree programs, bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, and/or specialized degrees (i.e. nursing degrees).*

The grant is 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.

*Grants are only valid for the standard length of the degree program: four years for most bachelor's degrees and two years for most graduate degrees.

Who is eligible for an EpicPromise Scholars Grant?

Children/dependents (up to age 26) of a United States or Canadian Vail Resorts employee (*full-time, part-time or with Seasonal Inactive Status*) who are pursuing post-secondary education and whose household income is at or below:

- Two-person household: **US\$120,680/CA\$156,884** (refer to the [Income Qualifications](#) for households with more than two individuals).
 - This increases by approximately US\$31,360 for each additional family member.
- Income will be verified through the applicant's [FAFSA](#) form or Canadian T-4 tax return as well as Vail Resorts Human Resources.
- Employment classification will be verified through Vail Resorts Human Resources.

Where is EpicPromise Scholars offered?

EpicPromise Scholars is only offered in the U.S. and Canada. It is not currently available for employees of Perisher, Hotham & Falls Creek in Australia.

What is the application deadline?

The 2021 application deadline is: **Tuesday, February 9, 2021.**

Where can I apply?

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

What is required as part of the application process?

1. **Proof of meeting the income qualification**, as demonstrated by:

- **FAFSA** – Free Application for Federal Student Aid for U.S. students (more info at www.fafsa.gov)
- **Canadian T-4** tax return for Canadian students

2. **5 Short-Answer Questions**

3. **GPA** – a minimum non-weighted GPA of 3.0

4. **Community Service** – strong applicants demonstrate an average of 40 hours of community service over the last 4 years

5. **Two Completed Reference Forms**

References comprise 10% of the total application score. If a blank document on incomplete form is uploaded, applications will receive zero points for this section. The Reference Forms should be completed by:

- One from a teacher, coach, counselor or school administrator (to demonstrate academic achievement and/or commitment)
- One from an adult who is a personal* or professional connection. i.e. coach, employer, instructor, official mentor etc.

How to Use Reference Forms: Reference Forms will be found in the application. Applicants will need to download the Reference Form and send it to their chosen references, who will then need to fill out the form and send it back to the applicant to upload as part of their application. You will not be able to submit an application without both completed reference forms uploaded to the site.

If your reference prefers to send the form directly to the EpicPromise Employee Foundation (without the applicant viewing beforehand) they can email it to epicpromise@vailresorts.com.

NOTE: if this option is taken, there is a checkbox on the form that the referral will need to check, sign and send back to the applicant for upload. No applications can be submitted without a completed form or confirmation that a form will be emailed to EpicPromise.

* Reference forms from family members and partners will not be permitted.

ALL DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED AS A .PDF or WORD DOCUMENT.

6. **Supplemental Materials** – submitted at your discretion, and can include:

- Academic honors
- Employment history (resume)
- Extracurricular activities

7. **Interview** – An in-person or video-call interview conducted with senior members of the Resort Administration Team.

ALL DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED AS A .PDF or WORD DOCUMENT

What is a reference form and who should complete it?

A reference form is like a letter or recommendation, but we've made it easier for you and your referral contact. The person filling out this form will be asked to comment on an applicant's work experience, skills, expertise, personal qualities, and/or academic performance. This should therefore be completed by a current or former teacher, counselor coach, employer, supervisor or someone else who can speak positively about the applicant.

What if my school does not release letters of recommendation or similar forms like a Reference Form about a student to that student?

If your reference prefers to send the form directly to the EpicPromise Employee Foundation (without the applicant viewing beforehand) they can email it to epicpromise@vailresorts.com with the subject line: **EpicPromise Scholars Letter of Recommendation and Your Name.**

NOTE: if this option is taken, there is a checkbox on the form that the referral will need to check, sign and send back to the applicant for upload. No applications can be submitted without a completed form or confirmation that a form will be emailed to EpicPromise.

What makes a good applicant?

Good applicants demonstrate high academic and extracurricular achievement. They are well-rounded with diverse interests and participate in their community-at-large through employment and/or volunteer service.

Where can I read about previous grant applicants?

To read the bios of previous EpicPromise Scholars recipients, [click here](#).

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

No. This is a competitive scholarship. Per the U.S. laws governing the Foundation's charity status, only *25% of those who apply* can be awarded a grant. The more applicants that are received, the higher the number of scholarships that can be awarded.

The number awarded changes from year to year. In 2018, 40 students were awarded a grant. In 2019, 43 students were awarded a grant. In 2020, 40 students were awarded a grant.

Are EpicPromise Scholars Grants earmarked by the Company's geographic regions or businesses?

No. Not at this time. There is no quota per resort/location that has to be met. All EpicPromise Scholars are ranked against each other rather than just against the students in their home location.

The age limit to apply is 26 years. Does that mean that I can apply as a senior in college/university who is admitted to a graduate program?

Yes. The grant can be applied to graduate studies as long as the student is at or under the age of 26 at the time they apply. However, the grant is only valid for the standard length of the program, which is two years for most graduate degrees.

Can I apply for a grant to get my GED or take ESL classes?

We do not currently offer this program. A GED/HSE and ESL grant program for children of our employees is something we hope to offer in future years.

Why is the deadline so early in the year?

The deadline is in February to align with the first award announcements in our local communities. As EpicPromise Scholars are competing across all resort locations, we need to accommodate the earliest local scholarship announcement.

Can I apply if I am not yet enrolled in college or university?

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.

Can I defer my grant if I'm awarded?

Yes. EpicPromise Scholars recipients may defer their grant for no longer than one year.

Who approves grant applications?

The EpicPromise Employee Foundation Board of Directors has appointed an Educational Grants Committee. This committee is comprised of non-executive Vail Resorts employees from across the Company that volunteer their time to review applications and determine all awardees. Only full and completed applications are considered.

When are applicants notified if they received a grant?

We will email applicants in late April/early May. If applicable, students (specifically those in high school) are expected to attend their school awards evening to be recognized alongside other scholarship announcements. If you are not currently in school, you will be notified in via email around the same time.

How are grants fulfilled?

All grant monies are sent directly to the student's academic institution (*i.e. the university's bursar's office*). Grant monies will not be sent to individuals directly.

I am a Canadian applicant, how does the exchange rate affect my grant?

The exact scholarship value is contingent on the USD exchange rate at the time of fulfillment and never more than US\$2,500/year for up to four years.

Income Qualifications Chart:



2020 INCOME QUALIFICATIONS

| Number of Persons in Household | USD | CAD |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | \$89,320 | \$116,116 |
| 2 | \$120,680 | \$156,884 |
| 3 | \$152,040 | \$197,652 |
| 4 | \$183,400 | \$238,420 |
| 5 | \$214,760 | \$279,188 |
| 6 | \$246,120 | \$319,956 |
| 7 | \$277,480 | \$360,724 |
| 8 | \$308,840 | \$401,492 |

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EPICPROMISE EMPLOYEE FOUNDATION

Contact Details

www.epicpromise.com

epicpromise@vailresorts.com

About the EpicPromise Employee Foundation

The EpicPromise Employee Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit funded by Vail Resorts, company employees and the community. We provide grants for unplanned emergencies and educational scholarships to Vail Resorts employees and their families.