



In The Name of Allah, The Most Beneficent the Most Merciful

American Islamic College Zakat Chicago Empowerment Scholarship Application Form

Objective:

To support Zakat-eligible Muslim students who have the ambition and potential to pursue or advance their qualifications, enabling them to become financially self-sufficient, but who currently lack the financial means to achieve their educational and career goals.

Eligibility Requirements & Application Instructions:

- The applicant must be a Muslim.
- The applicant must meet Zakat eligibility criteria.
- The applicant must be an Illinois resident, defined as follows:
 - **Dependent students:** The student or at least one parent must be a resident of Illinois.
 - **Independent students:** The student must be a resident of Illinois.
- The applicant must be enrolled as a newly admitted degree-seeking student or a current/continuing degree-seeking student at American Islamic College at full-time or half-time status.

Deadline for Application Submission:

Fall – August 1

Spring – November 1

Summer – March 1

The application form and all required documents must be submitted by the deadline as an email attachment to:
financialaid@aicusa.edu

For questions:

If you have any inquiries, please send an email to: financialaid@aicusa.edu



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Directions

Please complete this application and submit it along with all required documents to American Islamic College at financialaid@aicusa.edu

General Information

Please print:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone () _____ Birth Date _____

E-mail Address _____

☐ I declare that I am a Muslim.

Academic Information

Check the appropriate response:

Name of College/University you have been admitted to: _____

Address of the College/University you have been admitted to: _____

I have been admitted to the College/University as a: ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior

The semester/year for which you are applying for aid: _____

Check the program you have been admitted to: ☐ BA Degree ☐ MA Degree ☐ MDiv Degree ☐ Certification

College/University Major: _____ Expected graduation semester/year: _____

Students entering after high school:

Enter the name and address of the high school: _____

Graduating year: _____ GPA last semester/year _____

Students transferring from another college/university:

Enter the name and address of the college/university: _____

Last semester and year: _____ . GPA last semester/year _____



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Financial Information

Federal Financial Aid

American Islamic College is not yet participating in the FAFSA program. Please complete the following application regarding your financial status and external aid awards. Please utilize the **Evaluation Form** to support this application.

Financial Aid, Grants, Scholarship:

- ☐ Private, Corporate, Government, State, or Other Scholarship Awards Total Amount: \$ _____
Number of Semesters: _____

Indicate:

- 1- The remaining AIC tuition and fees the student is responsible for after external aid/scholarship: _____
- 2- The amount you/your family will be contributing: \$ _____
- 3- The maximum amount of savings and assets owned and held by the student (excluding parental savings and assets) during the past twelve months: \$ _____

Required Documents

Along with your completed application, please submit the following documents:

1. A response to the essay question
 - a. *What are your educational and career goals and how will this scholarship support you in these endeavors?*
 - b. *What would you like the scholarship committee to know about you?*
(Consider including any special circumstances, community service, volunteerism, or leadership roles.)
2. A copy of the Gap Analysis provided by the college or university you are applying to.
3. A PDF of any additional financial aid awards you have received.
4. Your most recent savings bank statement.
5. Your unofficial high school or college transcript, if you are currently enrolled in college.
6. Two recommendation letters:
 - One from a teacher or advisor regarding your academic performance.
 - One from an individual familiar with your volunteer/service work (e.g., Imam, youth leader, local volunteer coordinator, school club advisor, or a supervisor if you work while attending school).

Application Form Certification

I certify that all the information provided in this form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the Zakat Chicago Scholarship Committee to verify any information included in this form.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



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FERPA Statement

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, I understand that my education records cannot be released without my written consent.

I hereby authorize the release of my academic and financial records from the following college/university:

Name of College/University: _____

Address: _____

to American Islamic College (AIC), allowing the sharing of my student data between these institutions in compliance with FERPA regulations.

I acknowledge that I have the right to rescind this authorization for the release of my academic and financial records at any time by notifying the college/university Registrar.

I understand the FERPA statement and consent to the sharing of my student records between the college/university listed above and AIC for the purpose of advising and verifying my eligibility for the Zakat AID.

Student Signature (required): _____

Date: _____