



Haggard International Scholarship Program

For First Time Applicants

2025 – 2026

Application for First Time Applicants

Dear 2025-2026 Haggard International Scholarship Applicant,

Azusa Pacific University (APU) is delighted you are applying for this unique opportunity. The vision of the Haggard International Scholarship (HIS) program is to continue APU's legacy of equipping and sending Christian leaders throughout the world. The scholarship combines tuition assistance with leadership development opportunities. Eligibility for this scholarship includes financial need, leadership potential, Christian commitment, and academic excellence.

In this application packet, you will find the following:

1. Background and Overview of the HIS Program
2. Program Conditions
3. Contract for 2025-2026 academic year
4. Application Essay Questions
5. Reference Letter Instructions

To be considered for this scholarship, you must have completed your undergraduate application, been admitted to APU, and submitted financial documentation for one year of study and living expenses. When submitting this application, please ensure that you:

- Sign the Contract (Item #3)
- Submit typed responses to Essay Questions (Item #4)
- Provide a reference letter by email (Item #5)

The application deadline is **Friday, May 2, 2025.**

You can email all required items to the Haggard International Scholarship Committee at international@apu.edu with the subject *Haggard International Scholarship Program Application*.

You will be notified about the scholarship decision via email by May 17, 2025. If you have questions, please contact your admissions counselor.

1. Background of HIS Program

Azusa Pacific University's Commitment to Global Mission and Internationalization

Azusa Pacific University has a longstanding tradition of international engagement and global mission. More than a century ago, APU—then known as the Training School for Christian Workers—prepared over half of its graduates for service in overseas missions.

In 1939, Cornelius P. Haggard was appointed president of the institution. Over his remarkable 36-year tenure, he led the school's transformation from a modest training institute to a fully accredited college. A visionary leader, President Haggard held a deep conviction for equipping international students to become agents of change in their home countries.



An excerpt from his biography reflects this passion:

“He dreamed of training them [international students] so they would return to their native lands, qualified to serve as ministers, nurses, and teachers. He returned convinced that, ‘The training of foreign nationals for the evangelization of the world is at the present moment the most urgently needed missionary activity with which we can engage ourselves.’ Fresh in his mind was the work he had seen done by nationals who had received training at the College. He knew the potential...”

—Emma Haggard, *The Intrepid Builder*, pp. 133, 142

Inspired by this vision, President Haggard established a tuition scholarship specifically for international students. His goal was to train these students at APU and send them into the world as globally minded Christian leaders.

In 2003, the International Student Services team further advanced this mission by developing a leadership curriculum to support the growth and development of Haggard Scholars. Today, the Haggard International Scholarship and its leadership program continue to be recognized by the current president of Azusa Pacific University as a model of excellence in both scholarship and leadership formation.

Overview of HIS Program

The Haggard International Scholarship program at Azusa Pacific University honors our tradition of training Christian leaders by offering tuition scholarships and leadership training to international students committed to global Christian service.

Program Goals

- Discern and clarify student's God-given purpose
- Develop leadership skills rooted in Christian principles
- Learn to apply APU education and experience effectively across cultures

Eligibility Requirements

- International undergraduate students on F-1 or J-1 visas
- Regular admission to APU with proof of financial support for costs not covered by the Haggard International Scholarship (i.e. as required by F-1 and J-1 visa regulations)
- Commitment to return to home country or designated mission location outside North America.
- Complete HIS application components (contract, essays, reference)
- Be a born-again Christian
- Minimum 3.2 GPA for initial application year; maintain at least a 3.0 GPA throughout degree program for renewal of scholarship in subsequent years
- Scholarship applicable for up to 8 semesters, excluding non-APU study abroad programs
- Be committed to fulfilling HIS program components

Program Requirements *(subject to change)*

- Meet with mentor/coordinator every semester
- Volunteer 2-3 times per year at designated APU events
- Completion of a Leadership course within the first academic year
- Regular attendance at a local church
- A 30-minute culmination presentation at the end of degree program
- One short-term leadership experience (local or global)

Desired Student Outcomes

- Strengthened Christian faith
- Enhanced leadership skills
- Ability to set and achieve meaningful goals
- Application of Christian leadership and service
- Effective contextualization of experiences across cultures
- Building Christ-centered relationships with peers and mentors

2. HIS Program Conditions

The Haggard International Scholarship is intended to support F-1 or J-1 international students in obtaining a Christ-centered education that equips them to serve as effective ministers for Christ in their home countries or mission fields abroad. Eligible applicants must be born-again Christians who intend to return to their home country or a mission location outside North America upon completion of their academic studies and training.

Instructions: Please carefully read each condition and initial next to each item as an acknowledgment of your understanding and agreement.

1. **Christian Commitment** - Recipients must be committed Christians who profess a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and maintain a lifestyle consistent with that faith. The scholarship may be revoked if there is evidence of spiritual inconsistency or violations of university policies. _____
2. **Return Abroad Requirement** - Recipients agree to return to their home country or a mission location outside the U.S.A. upon completion of their studies and any authorized Optional Practical Training (OPT). Failure to comply may result in request for repayment of all HIS funds to Azusa Pacific University. _____
3. **Scholarship Duration** - The HIS program scholarship is awarded for a maximum of eight (8) semesters. _____
4. **University Representation** - Recipients may be invited to speak or participate in university events on or off-campus as part of the HIS program leadership training. Any gifts, honorariums, or offerings received in this capacity are considered the property of Azusa Pacific University. _____
5. **Proper Use of Funds** - Improper use of scholarship funds (e.g. purchase personal items not related study) may result in termination of the award. _____
6. **Academic Standing** - A minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) must be maintained at all times during the recipient's degree program. Falling below this threshold may result in cancellation of the scholarship. _____
7. **Account Clearance** - All previous semester balances must be paid in full before enrollment in a new semester. _____

8. **Policy Adherence** - Recipients are responsible for being familiar with and complying with all policies outlined in the APU catalog and student handbook. _____
9. **Tuition-Only Funding** - HIS funds are designated for tuition expenses only and do not cover room, board, fees, or transportation. Any excess funding will remain the property of APU and will not be disbursed to the student. _____
10. **Immigration Status Notification** - Any change in immigration status (other than F-1 or J-1) must be reported to the HIS committee. Such actions may affect scholarship eligibility. _____
11. **Policy Revisions** - Azusa Pacific University reserves the right to update or revise these conditions without prior notice. This agreement is reviewed annually and any updates or changes will be provided at that time. Renewal of scholarship is not guaranteed and subject to annual review. _____
12. **Non-Carryover of Funds** - HIS program funds do not carry over between academic years. Prior-year funds cannot be used in a future academic year. _____
13. **No Summer Session Funding** - HIS funds cannot be applied toward summer enrollment. _____
14. **Enrollment Requirement** - Students are required to maintain a full course load during their program (minimum of 12 units per semester). If a reduced course of less than 12 units is approved by the HIS committee, this may will result in HIS program scholarship being prorated accordingly. _____
15. **Study Abroad Limitation** - HIS and other institutional aid may only be applied to APU-sponsored study abroad programs. _____

3. Contract for 2025-2026 Academic Year

Name: _____ APU Student ID: _____

Permanent Home Address: _____

U.S. Address (if available): _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Current GPA: _____

Fall 2025 Class: Fresh | Soph | Junior | Senior

Signature: _____ Date: _____

By signing above, I acknowledge that I understand and accept all of the HIS Program conditions and obligations. I understand that failure to continue maintaining all of the HIS program conditions and obligations may result in termination of the scholarship, and may require repayment of funds.

For HIS Program Committee Use Only

Application Decision: Granted _____ Denied _____ Date: _____

Scholarship Amount for 2025-2026: \$ _____

Comments: _____

4. Essay Questions for First-Time Applicants

Please use short essays (150~200 words each) to answer the following questions:

1. Share your Christian journey and lessons learned in following Jesus.
2. Describe a leadership experience or volunteer service activity you participated in and how it impacted you.
3. What are your goals after graduating from APU and how can HIS program help you reach them?
4. Describe your most meaningful accomplishment and a significant failure, reflecting on lessons learned.

All essay answers must be sent as an attachment to international@apu.edu, with the subject “*HIS Program Application - Essays*” by the application deadline, **May 2, 2025**.

5. Reference Letter Requirement:

Please provide a reference letter from one of the following:

- Former Teacher/Professor (OR)
- Spiritual Mentor/Pastor

The letter can address any of the following: Christian character, demonstrated leadership abilities and/or potential, vision for ministry, or any other qualities that highlight the applicant’s potential for global Christian service.

The reference letter must be sent as an attachment to international@apu.edu with the subject “*HIS Program Application - Reference Letter for [Applicant Name]*” by the application deadline, **May 2, 2025**.

NOTE: Additional Financial Aid Information

The HIS Program scholarship can be combined with other APU awards, including Athletic, Music, Academic, or departmental scholarships. Federal and state financial aid is unavailable for international students. Explore additional opportunities <https://www.apu.edu/financial-aid/types/>