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Since 1859, Equitable Foundation's promise has been to help people pursue what’s possible. They do this in their business every day, and they work hard to build a better future for their communities too. For over 30 years, Equitable Foundation has contributed to the success and vitality of their communities through grants, partnerships, and volunteerism.

See more here.
Since 2009, Equitable Foundation has partnered with Dress for Success to provide the “Pursuit Beyond the Suit” National Educational Scholarship, together creating a pathway for the women of Dress for Success to pursue their educational and career advancement goals as they seek to enrich their lives and their livelihoods.
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Based on feedback from affiliates and clients, we looked for ways to make the scholarship and application process to be as relevant and user friendly as possible. We also recognize that women are facing additional challenges as they move forward in recovery from the global pandemic. This year, you’ll see the following changes in eligibility and requirements:

• **Professional Women's Group (PWG) is not a requirement for affiliates or applicants.** U.S. based affiliates need not offer a PWG to encourage women to apply. Women need not be PWG members to apply. We do ask that women be active participants in Dress for Success programming, but that program does not need to be PWG.

• **Being employed is not a requirement.** The application process will look for applicants with career goals that will be furthered by their continued education, but they need not currently be working.

• **Scholarships can go towards the cost of certificate programs so long as they are offered by an accredited college or university.**
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The Equitable Foundation and Dress for Success invite Dress for Success clients active with their local Dress for Success affiliate to apply for the 2020 Pursuit Beyond the Suit Scholarship.

At least five winners will be selected, winning scholarships of up to $6,000 to go towards the cost of a degree program or a certification course being delivered by an accredited college or university.
Eligibility and Requirements

Affiliates
• All United States based affiliates may invite women who are active in Dress for Success programs to apply.

Scholarship Applicants
• Must be active in Dress for Success programs with their local affiliate.
• May not be a full or part time employee of Dress for Success Worldwide or local affiliate.
• Must be pursuing a degree or certificate program with an accredited college or university and able to provide proof of enrollment at the time of application.
• Must be able to share proof of progress/completion at the end of the Fall 2020 quarter, semester or trimester by providing a transcript or certificate of completion. Should applicant unenroll prior to semester or certificate completion, Dress for Success Worldwide will require full reimbursement.
• Must not be a previous winner of the Pursuit Beyond the Suit scholarship.
Eligibility and Requirements

Additional Rules and Requirements
• Scholarships may only be used to cover costs of tuition or certificate program enrollment. Winners will be asked to provide contact for the academic institution's bursar or other relevant administrator as well as any other information necessary to allow Dress for Success Worldwide to distribute scholarship via direct payment.
• The maximum amount for one scholarship is $6,000. A minimum of 5 scholarships will be awarded.
• Final scholarship amounts will be based on student's enrollment expenses for the academic year or cost of certificate program.
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Affiliates
• A representative from each affiliate must fill out this application for each scholarship applicant. You can find the application [at this link].

Scholarship Applicants
• Each applicant must fill out this application, which includes uploading all requested materials. You can find the application [at this link].
Judging Criteria
Applications will be reviewed by a panel of Dress for Success Worldwide employees, with applicant's name, affiliate and geographic location removed, assessed based on the following criteria:

- **Connection to Career Advancement**: Is the applicant able to clearly exhibit how her degree or certificate will further her career goals?
- **Quality of Writing**: Do responses exhibit style, clarity, authenticity and proper grammar?
- **Precision**: Are both scholarship applicant and affiliate applications complete and submitted on time? (Affiliates, we'll let you know before the deadline if we have applications from scholarship applicants that require your action!)
Timeline

June 24, 2020
• Application open and shared with United States affiliates to share with eligible women.

July 27, 2020
• All applications due

August 10, 2020
• Scholarship recipients and affiliates informed

August-September 2020
• Scholarship recipients collaborate with Dress for Success Worldwide Programs to facilitate payment directly to accredited college or university

January 2021
• Scholarship recipient checkin, providing proof of completion and personal update.
Questions?

E-mail the Dress for Success Worldwide Programs Team with questions anytime: hello@dressforsuccess.org.