

Church Matching Scholarship Application

A Partnership with the Local Church
2024-2025



Amount of Church
Contribution _____

Church Name

Address

City State Zip Code

Country

Phone Number

The undersigned does verify the following (please **initial** below in order for form to be valid):

_____ The funds sent by the church are funds from a general scholarship fund over which the church (and not a donor) has full discretion.

_____ The funds sent by the church were not directly provided by the student or a family member of the above named student.

_____ The funds were processed through the church treasury/accounting department in a manner consistent with IRS regulations and best practices for church financial administration and accounting.

Local Church Treasurer

Last Name

First Name

Local Church Treasurer Signature

Date

This application form and church funds from a clearly identifiable church checking account must be received prior to the awarding of the La Sierra Church Matching Scholarship.

Funds must be received before the end of the school term or school year for which the student has attended.

Education Allowance recipients, students in off-campus, or cohort, or discounted programs are not eligible for matching funds. There is no guarantee that funds will be matched after the student is NO longer enrolled at La Sierra.

Please see additional eligibility requirements on the back of this form.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is it?

Church Matching is a financial aid scholarship program that provides local churches the opportunity to assist La Sierra students in paying for educationally related costs at La Sierra.

How does it work?

A student with financial need (the recruiter or financial aid advisor at La Sierra can help determine the amount of need a student has) contacts the local church, fills out the application on the reverse side and requests funds to be sent to La Sierra on their behalf. When the funds and the completed application are received, La Sierra will match 100% of the funds, up to a maximum of \$1000, creating a total maximum combined award of \$2000 per school year.

Is it legal?

Yes, as long as the funds are sent directly from the church to La Sierra, and no family member has made a contribution to the local church for the expressed purpose of funding the church's contribution on behalf of the student. (A church treasurer can provide further clarification).

When is the money placed on the student's account?

All contributions by the church, and the matching scholarship amounts, will be divided by the number of regular terms the student will be attending in a single academic year. For example, a student who receives \$1000 from her church and attends full-time Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters will receive \$333 in church funds and \$333 in matching La Sierra funds each quarter.

Can Church Matching affect other financial aid?

In some cases it can. It is important for the student to talk to a recruiter or financial aid officer if they are receiving other aid. Also, if a student is eligible for educational allowance/subsidy through their parent's employer, the student is not eligible to receive matching funds.

Can Church Matching be used in the summer?

No. Church Matching scholarships are only available in Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters. Amounts provided to a student's account by a church for summer classes will not be matched by La Sierra.

When should the student contact the church for funds?

It is best to contact the church before school starts so that an accurate financial aid package can be prepared before classes begin.

Will a letter of intent from the church be enough for a student to receive Church Matching funds?

No. La Sierra must receive the actual funds. A letter of commitment from the church on the student's behalf can be used to estimate the overall financial aid a student will receive.

Can a church send smaller amounts throughout the year, rather than a single amount for the entire year.

Yes. If a church is not able to send funds for the entire year, they are encouraged to send funds to La Sierra once each quarter, preferably at the beginning of each quarter.

What happens to church funds if the student for whom they are intended drops out of school?

The church will be contacted and will have the option of having the unused funds returned to the church or reassigned to another student of the church's choice.

Can Church Matching money be placed on my account without the application?

No. The application must accompany the first church check sent each school year.

Is this scholarship renewable?

Yes, but a new application must be completed each school year.

Whom do I contact if I have additional questions?

Get in touch with Student Financial Services at (951) 785-2175 or sfs@lasierra.edu.