The HSBC Scholars Award
2015 Application for Rising Juniors and Seniors

The HSBC Scholars Award was established in 2013 by HSBC Bank. The HSBC Scholars Program is an initiative developed by HSBC Bank to provide educational funding, financial literacy training and business information and experience to low- to moderate-income students pursuing a full-time education in a STEM or business-related field. The HSBC Scholars Program reinforces HSBC’s core values of being open, dependable and connected for students with demonstrated financial need and will enhance their educational experience by providing financial support, internships, mentoring, training and networking opportunities. Scholarship funds may be used for all eligible educational expenses, including tuition, room and board and meal plans.

To be eligible for the 2015 HSBC Scholars Program, candidates must:

• Be enrolled as a full-time junior or senior* at USC for the 2015-16 academic year (third or fourth year student, with at least one academic semester completed at USC as a full-time student)
  *Seniors graduating in December 2015 are not eligible to apply.

• Be majoring in business-related academic program or STEM field. Please see the list of eligible majors on page 4.

• Agree to participate in the HSBC Scholars Program, which will include two web-based trainings and a mentor program managed by HSBC Bank

• Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA

• Demonstrate financial need

• Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident

• Use the scholarship funds for qualifying educational expenses during fall/spring (scholarship funds cannot be applied to study abroad or summer expenses). Because HSBC Scholars must remain accessible throughout the academic year to participate in this program, HSBC Scholars are not allowed to study abroad.

To apply, send the following information by **5pm on Friday, March 27, 2015:**

1. Completed application form (page 3)

2. A resume (include information regarding your academic achievements, involvement in campus and community organizations, work experience, and special talents and interests)

3. Responses to both of the following questions:
   - You’ve now completed a significant amount of college work towards your educational goals. How has your college experience allowed you to plan for the future? Where and what do you see yourself doing five years from now? Explain your vision and how you are working toward this goal in a short essay. (Maximum 250 words)
   - The HSBC Scholars Program is focused on supporting students in STEM and/or business-related fields. What do you see as the importance of academic study in these areas? (Maximum 250 words)

4. The HSBC Scholars Program seeks to provide funding for low- to moderate-income students. Please include any information regarding your financial situation that you would like the scholarship committee members to consider as they review your application. (Maximum 1 page)
Submit your completed application via email to admission@dornsife.usc.edu (indicate "HSBC Scholars Application" in subject line). Alternatively, you may mail or hand-deliver your completed application to:

USC Dornsife Admission  
Attn: HSBC Scholars Award  
3454 Trousdale Parkway, CAS 100  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0152

Applications must be received by 5pm on Friday, March 27, 2015.

For questions, please contact USC Dornsife Admission at (213) 740-5930 or admission@dornsife.usc.edu.
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First Name: __________________________  Last Name: __________________________
Local Address: ___________________________________________________________
Permanent Address: __________________________________________________________
Local Phone Number: ____________  Permanent Phone Number: ____________
Email Address: ___________________________________________________________
USC ID #: ____________________  Anticipated Graduation Date: ____________
First semester at USC as a full-time student: ____________  Year in School (2015-16): ____________
Declared Major(s): _________________________________________________________
Declared Minor(s): _________________________________________________________

All the information provided by me in my application is correct and I hereby give permission to the USC Dornsife Continuing Student Scholarship Committee to verify my academic and financial aid status. I understand that, if I am awarded the 2015 HSBC Scholars Award, I must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA and a declared major in one of the areas approved by the HSBC Scholars Award Program for the duration of my participation in the program. I also understand that, if I am awarded the 2015 HSBC Scholars Award, I may not study abroad in the 2015-16 academic year.

Signature: __________________________  Date: __________________________

If you have any questions, contact USC Dornsife Admission at admission@dornsife.usc.edu or (213) 740-5930.
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LIST OF ELIGIBLE MAJORS:

Biological Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Biochemistry
- Human Biology
- Human Performance

Chemistry
- Chemistry
- Chemistry (Research)
- Chemical Biology
- Chemical Nanoscience

Earth Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Geological Sciences

Economics
- Economics
- Economics/Mathematics
- International Relations Global Business
- International Relations and the Global Economy
- Political Economy

Environmental Studies
- Environmental Studies
- Environmental Science and Health

Mathematics
- Mathematics
- Applied and Computational Mathematics

Neuroscience
- Neuroscience
- Computational Neuroscience

Physics and Astronomy
- Physics
- Astronomy
- Physics/Computer Science
- Biophysics
- Physical Science

Other Eligible Major(s)
- GeoDesign

Special consideration will be given to students with one of the above majors who are also double majoring and/or minoring in one of the following fields:
- Engineering
- Business
- Accounting
- Finance
What is the HSBC Scholars Program?
The HSBC Scholars Program was created to invest in the futures of low-to-moderate income juniors and seniors pursuing a full-time education in the STEM curriculum or business-related academic programs at Baruch College (New York City), DePaul University (Chicago), University at Buffalo (Buffalo) and University of Southern California (Los Angeles).

The Program will promote a positive attitude and incorporate HSBC’s core values of being open, dependable and connected by providing financial support, mentoring, training and networking opportunities.

Who can apply to be an HSBC Scholar?
U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents enrolled full-time as a junior or senior at Baruch College, DePaul University, University at Buffalo and University of Southern California, majoring in the STEM curriculum or business-related academic programs with a minimum 3.0 GPA and demonstrated financial need, may apply. Students must study on campus for the entire year to be eligible.

What is STEM?
STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math and is the preparation of students in competencies and skills in the four disciplines. According to an article in MediaPlanet (June 2012), a successful STEM education provides students with these four subjects in sequences that build upon each other and can be used with real-world applications. The HSBC Scholars Program places special emphasis on technology and math within STEM, and also considers students majoring in business-related academic programs.

Why does the HSBC Scholars Program focus on the STEM curriculum?
According to MediaPlanet (June 2012), most jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science; 10-year employment projections by the U.S. Department of Labor show that of the 20 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation. Scholars focused on STEM or business-related academic programs are likely to benefit from program engagement opportunities such as networking, resume building, and mentoring.

Will students studying majors outside of the STEM curriculum and business-related academic programs be considered?
Exceptions (which will be rare) are handled on a case by case basis.

What are HSBCs key market areas for the Scholars Program?
Buffalo, NY  Chicago, IL  Los Angeles, CA  New York, NY

If at student transfers to a school outside of HSBCs noted key market areas, what happens to my scholarship?
Per the eligibility criteria, Scholars must be a junior or senior at Baruch College, DePaul University, University at Buffalo or University of Southern California. If a student transfers, their scholarship eligibility will not be transferable.
How are the HSBC Scholars selected?
Representatives from Baruch College, DePaul University, University at Buffalo and University of Southern California will review the applications and select scholars based on criteria, quality of application and supporting materials, including responses to essay questions. All universities will forward Scholar finalists to HSBC for review prior to student notification, to ensure a mix of STEM and business-related majors have been selected.

In addition, all Scholars must be reconfirmed by the universities after the course add/drop deadline to ensure that they have matriculated into a STEM curriculum or business-related academic program. All Scholars should be both reconfirmed and notified by October 10.

What do the HSBC Scholars receive?
HSBC Scholars receive financial support, mentoring, training, networking and other support as identified.

What are the requirements of an HSBC Scholar?
Scholars will be required to participate in two financial education trainings – first upon entering the Scholars program and second prior to exiting the program (graduating).

Are the scholarship dollars limited to tuition?
Scholarships will be paid directly to the school and may be used for relevant school fees, including tuition, on-campus housing, meal plans and books.

Why are freshmen and sophomores ineligible for the HSBC Scholars Program?
The current HSBC Scholars Program is designed for juniors and seniors. Freshmen and sophomores will be considered in a later phase of the program.

How and when will I receive my payout?
Payment will be made directly to the college or university where the Scholar is a student.

Will scholarship dollars cover study abroad?
No. The current program is designed for full-time students studying in the U.S.

Are interviews required for the scholarships?
Interviews are not required for scholarships.

If my GPA drops below a 3.0, will my scholarship be revoked?
If an HSBC Scholar does not meet the stated qualifications after an award has been made, they may not be eligible for a renewal. Certain egregious violations may result in the rescission of the HSBC Scholar privileges up to and including revocation of the scholarship.

If I am a junior, will my scholarship automatically renew for my senior year? If not, can I re-apply?
Scholarships will not automatically renew, however, Scholars who have met all qualifications may reapply and will receive preference upon confirmation that all objectives for the previous year were met. Returning Scholars should contact their university administrator to begin the renewal process.