

QUALITY FIRST SCHOLARSHIPS

Directions

1. A parent or guardian must complete the information requested below for the child who will use the scholarship.
 - Sections 1, 2 and 4 are for all children.
 - Section 3 is for children who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals.
2. The parent or guardian must provide a copy (front and back, as applicable) of one or more documents belonging to the child from the attached "List of Evidence of Eligibility and Lawful Presence."

SECTION 1 – APPLICANT (CHILD) INFORMATION

Child's Name (Print): _____

Child's Birthdate: _____
Month Day Year

Grant or other benefit applying for: First Things First, Quality First Scholarship

SECTION 2 – CITIZENSHIP OR NATIONAL STATUS DECLARATION

Is the child a U.S. citizen or national? (check one) Yes ___ No ___

If "Yes," state where the child was born:

City _____ State (or equivalent) _____ Country or Territory _____

If the child is a U.S. citizen or national, skip section 3 and go to section 4.

If the child is not a U.S. citizen or national, complete both sections 3 and 4.

SECTION 3 – ALIEN STATUS DECLARATION

Complete section 3 only if the child is not a U.S. citizen or national.

Indicate the child's status by checking one of the 13 boxes.

"Qualified Alien" Status

- 1. Lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).
- 2. Granted asylum under INA § 208.
- 3. Refugee admitted to the United States under INA § 207.

- 4. Paroled into the United States for at least one year under INA § 212(d)(5).
- 5. Deportation currently withheld under INA § 241(b)(3).
(*This status can only be used where the scholarship is federally funded.*)
- 6. Cuban or Haitian entrant, as defined in the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, § 501(e).
- 7. Child who is or whose parent is a “battered alien” or an alien subjected to extreme cruelty in the United States and who qualifies under 8 U.S.C. § 1641(c).
- 8. Granted nonimmigrant status under INA § 101(a)(15)(T) (human trafficking) or who has a pending application that sets forth a prima facie case for eligibility for such nonimmigrant status.
- 9. From Iraq or Afghanistan and granted special immigrant status under INA § 101(a)(27).
- 10. Citizen or national of Ukraine or a related person paroled into the United States as described in Public Law 117-128, § 401 (May 21, 2022).

Nonimmigrant Status

- 11. Nonimmigrant under the INA. Nonimmigrants are persons who have temporary status for a specific purpose. (*This status cannot be used where the scholarship is federally funded.*)

Alien Paroled into the United States For Less Than One Year

- 12. Paroled into the United States for less than one year under INA § 212(d)(5).
(*This status cannot be used where the scholarship is federally funded.*)

Otherwise Lawfully Present

- 13. A person not described in categories 1–12 who is otherwise lawfully present in the United States.
PLEASE NOTE: The federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act makes individuals who fall into this category ineligible for Quality First Scholarships despite being lawfully present in the United States.

SECTION 4 – DECLARATION

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Arizona that the answers I have given are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and that the document(s) submitted demonstrating eligibility and lawful presence are true.

Name of document(s) provided: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian’s Printed Name

Parent or Legal Guardian’s Signature

Date

ATTENTION CHILD CARE PROVIDER:

** Due to Proposition 314 (2024), if the child is not a U.S. citizen or national, the Child Care Provider must send this completed form and the child’s submitted document(s) demonstrating eligibility and lawful presence to First Things First so First Things First can verify the child’s eligibility and the validity of the child’s document(s) using the federal SAVE system before the child receives a Quality First Scholarship.*

LIST OF EVIDENCE OF ELIGIBILITY AND LAWFUL PRESENCE

U.S. Citizen or U.S. National

- Birth certificate or delayed birth certificate issued in any U.S. State, Territory, or Possession (unless the applicant was born to foreign diplomats), including Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, or the Northern Mariana Islands
- U.S. passport (valid for at least 5 years)
- U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad:
 - Certificate of Birth (issued by a foreign service post), Form FS-545
 - Certification of Report of Birth, Form DS-1350
 - Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States, Form FS-240
- U.S. Certificate of Citizenship, Form N-560 or Form N-561
- U.S. Certificate of Naturalization, Form N-550 or Form N-570
- Tribal Certificate of Indian Blood
- Tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs Affidavit of Birth
- Tribal members may contact First Things First at (602) 771-5026 for additional forms of acceptable evidence.

Qualified Aliens

1. Alien Lawfully Admitted for Permanent Residence

- Foreign passport with a United States visa and unexpired temporary I-551 stamp
- Form I-94 with a photograph and unexpired temporary I-551 stamp
- Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551)

2. Asylee

- Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766) annotated "A5"
- Form I-94 with a photograph and annotated with stamp showing grant of asylum under INA § 208

3. Refugee

- Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766) annotated "A3"
- Form I-94 with a photograph and annotated with stamp showing admission under INA § 207
- Refugee Travel Document (Form I-571)

4. Alien Paroled into the U.S. for at Least One Year

- Form I-94 with a photograph and stamp showing admission for at least one continuous year under INA § 212(d)(5)

5. Alien Whose Deportation or Removal Was Withheld

- Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766) annotated "A10"

6. Cuban/Haitian Entrant

- Foreign passport with a United States visa and unexpired temporary I-551 stamp
- Form I-94 with a photograph, code CU6 or CU7, and unexpired temporary I-551 stamp
- Form I-94 with a photograph and stamp showing parole as "Cuba/Haitian Entrant" under INA § 212(d)(5)
- Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) with code CU6, CU7 or CH6

7-10. Battered Alien, Trafficking Victim, and Iraq/Afghanistan/Ukraine Entrant

Contact First Things First at (602) 771-5026 for assistance.

Nonimmigrant Status

11. Nonimmigrant under the INA

- Form I-94 with a photograph and stamp showing authorized admission as nonimmigrant under INA § 212(d)(5)

Alien Paroled into the United States for Less than One Year

12. Alien Paroled for Less than One Year

- Form I-94 with a photograph and stamp showing authorized admission for less than one year under INA § 212(d)(5)

Person with a Disability

If any applicant has a disability that limits the applicant’s ability to provide the required evidence of citizenship, nationality or immigration status, the applicant may contact First Things First at (602) 771-5026 for assistance.

Background on why the Statement of Lawful Presence and Eligibility to Receive Public Benefits and supporting documents are required:

Title IV of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (the “Act”), 8 U.S.C. §§ 1611 & 1621, provides that, with certain exceptions, only United States citizens, United States non-citizen nationals, “qualified aliens” (and sometimes only particular categories of qualified aliens), nonimmigrants, and certain aliens paroled into the United States are eligible to receive public benefits. Public benefits under the Act include grants and contracts as well as payments or assistance to an individual, household or family unit for welfare, health, disability, postsecondary education and other similar benefits. Individuals who apply for a public benefit must make a written declaration under penalty of perjury that they are eligible to receive public benefits and submit documentation establishing that eligibility.

Arizona Revised Statutes §§ 1-501, 1-502 & 1-504 require, in general, that a natural person applying for a public benefit must submit certain documentation that satisfactorily demonstrates that the applicant is lawfully present in the United States and make a declaration under penalty of perjury that the submitted documentation of lawful presence is true. In addition, due to Proposition 314 (2024), applicants who are not U.S. citizens or nationals must have their immigration status marked above and their submitted documentation verified by a government agency through the federal systematic alien verification for entitlements (SAVE) program.