



# HACER® National Scholarship

The **McDonald's HACER® National Scholarship** was founded in 1985 by McDonald's Owner Operator Richard Castro to assist Hispanic students as they pursue their higher education goals. To date, more than \$33 million in scholarships have been awarded to more than 17,000 recipients.



**Everyone deserves a fair chance at chasing their dreams. We recognize the financial hurdles many students and their families face in pursuing a college education, and for this reason McDonald's and our Hispanic Owner/Operators remain committed to our investments and fostering educational opportunities,** — *Richard Castro, a McDonald's Owner/Operator and national HACER® scholarship chairperson*

McDonald's HACER® National Scholarship is one of the largest programs of its kind in the country, committed to providing financial resources to deserving students. Eligible high school seniors from coast to coast are invited to visit [www.mcdonalds.com/HACER](http://www.mcdonalds.com/HACER) to apply for a chance to be one of up to 30 annual recipients. The website also provides students and their families with resources on college readiness and the application process in both English and Spanish.



**One small decision I made that changed everything was applying for the McDonald's HACER® National Scholarship, which really put my mind at ease when it came to not graduating with student loans. Receiving that email was huge for me and my family – it changed a lot and placed us in a position where I could pursue my dreams.** — *2018 HACER® recipient and recent graduate at Georgetown University*



**The application period for the 2024-2025 academic year is now open through March 6, 2025.**

While applications are underway, McDonald's is also visiting schools across the country with its **HACER® Education Tour**, a series of motivational assemblies and workshop events focused on leadership development and parental involvement. The workshops are hosted by **CoolSpeak**, a leading youth engagement company in the country, and aim to motivate and inspire students to overcome challenges, while providing them with key educational resources to navigate the college application process.

A total of

**\$500K**

to

**30**

is awarded

students

**Tier 1** Recipients will be awarded either \$100,000, \$50,000 or \$25,000

**Tier 2** Recipients will receive \$20,000 or \$10,000

**Tier 3** Recipients will receive \$5,000

## Eligibility Requirements

Check out the requirements below to find out if the McDonald's HACER® National Scholarship is right for you:

- You're a high school senior
- Must be a legal U.S. Resident, U.S. Citizen or a DREAMER/DACA recipient
- You're under 21 years old
- You carry a minimum 2.8 GPA
- You're eligible to attend a two- or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school with a full-time course of study
- You'll disclose other scholarship programs that you've applied for
- You'll enroll and attend an accredited institution in the academic year after your selection (verification needed, as scholarship funds are paid directly to the schools)

The scholarship recipients are selected based on:

- Academic achievement
- Financial need
- Demonstrated commitment to the Hispanic/Latino community
- Personal statement
- Personal qualities and strengths as portrayed in a personal interview, either in-person or by phone

Documentation:

- Transcript
- Personal statement
- Letter of recommendation to be submitted online
- List of community service projects