

Application Information

Puksta Scholar Application

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Puksta Scholars Program! Please reach out to puksta@du.edu with any questions.

Application Deadline: Applications are due by Sunday, March 23 at 11:59pm Mountain Time.

Eligibility: Residents of Colorado who have financial need are eligible to apply. All applicants must demonstrate financial need (Pell eligible), which is evaluated by DU's Office of Financial Aid.

This application is divided into three sections: 1) Application Information 2) Critical Reflections 3) Acknowledgments

Application Information

Please fill in the following information

First Name

Last Name

DU Student ID (87XXXXXXX):

Email

Phone number

Intended major field of study at DU
(optional)

Scholarship recipients must be Colorado residents to be eligible to apply. Additionally, geographic diversity (e.g., residence and high school addresses) is considered in the selection process. Therefore, the following prompts relate to residency and high school. Scholarship recipients will also be expected to provide proof of residency to the Donor if awarded the scholarship. Please reach out to puksta@du.edu with any questions.

Please provide your current address (street address, city, zip code):

My current address listed above is located in Denver (The City and County of Denver is a consolidated city and county).

- Yes
- No

Have you lived at the same Denver address for the past 6 months?

- Yes
- No

Since you answered NO to the above question, please provide all of your previous addresses (street address, city, zip code) for the past 6 months, and include your approximate dates of residence.

(Example)

12345 Main St.

Denver, CO, 80221

Dates of residence: January 2025–March 2025

54321 Straight St.

Denver, CO, 80221

Dates of residence: July 2024–January 2025

Please provide the name of your high school from which you are graduating

Please provide your high school's address (street address, city, zip code):

(Example)

5678 Main St.

Denver, CO, 80206

The address of my high school listed above is in Denver (The City and County of Denver is a consolidated city and county).

Yes

No

Critical Reflections

Justice Issue Area(s)

Please select the justice issue area(s) or other community issue(s) you are interested in being actively involved with during college (see options below for suggested areas or choose "Other" and you may identify your own).

- Poverty, Homelessness and Affordable Housing
- Economic Development and Labor
- Healthcare and Senior Services
- Women, Gender and LGBTQIA+
- Race and Ethnicity
- Disability
- Immigration, Refugee and International
- Religion/Spirituality
- Human Rights
- Environmental
- Education and Youth
- Culture, Music, Theatre and the Arts
- Other

Critical Reflections

Please respond to the three prompts below with no more than **300 words per question (approximately 2200 characters)**. If you prefer, you may respond with an alternative form of communication such as poetry, video,

music or other visual representation. Please select the medium of communication in which you feel you best express yourself.

For alternative responses, please include lyrics if appropriate and/or a brief written description, so that someone who does not know you would understand your intended message if it is not explicit in your alternative response. Please make sure that you save in a widely acceptable format, and/or for a PC computer. You will be able to attach these in the online application, should you have any difficulties, please email them to puksta@du.edu.

Regardless of how you choose to respond, you must respond to all three questions below. You may also respond with a mix of written responses and alternative responses (i.e., a video for question 1 and written responses to questions 2 and 3).

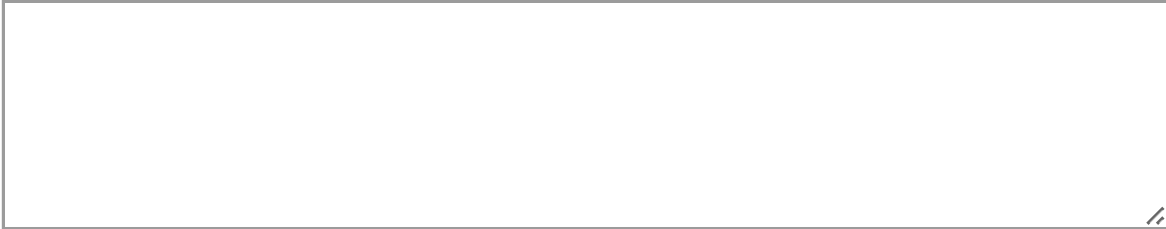
Prompt 1

Being a Puksta Scholar is more than just receiving a scholarship—you will become part of a supportive community dedicated to making a difference. As a Puksta Scholar, you will work to address a community, social, or ecological issue—and be mentored to turn your ideas into meaningful action.*

Please share with us an issue that you care deeply about. How might you envision working with others to address this issue as a Puksta Scholar? As you develop your response, we encourage you to engage your imagination and to consider your approach to change.

**The social or environmental issue you choose is not permanent. During your time as a Puksta Scholar, you will have flexibility to shift your focus.*

If you are choosing to submit an alternative response, please note that in the text box below.



If you have chosen to respond to Prompt 1 with an alternative response, please attach it here.

Prompt 2

To be successful and genuine in the work we do in the community it is important to share our own personal stories. Where we came from, why we do what we do, and where we are going are all questions that will be asked of you.

Tell us a story that explains your motivation for participating in your community.* What is your personal connection to the issue area(s) that you are passionate about engaging with? Although you have full creative license here, a framework that might be helpful is discussing a challenge you have faced, a

choice you made, the outcome of that choice, and any insights about those experiences.

**This is meant to be reflective of your personal story and background, not a summary of your activities in the community or awards.*

If you are choosing to submit an alternative response, please note that in the text box below.



If you have chosen to respond to Prompt 2 with an alternative response, please attach it here.

Prompt 3

One of the characteristics that successful scholars have is being able to effectively engage diversity and difference in order to work successfully in the community. Create an image, poem, song, story, essay, or other text that reflects an experience you had working with people who are different from you. How did you respond? What might you do differently now?

If you are choosing to submit an alternative response, please note that in the text box below.

If you have chosen to respond to Prompt 3 with an alternative response, please attach it here.

Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments

Please select each statement to indicate that you acknowledge the following:

- I will be asked to provide proof of residency to the Puksta Foundation if I am awarded the scholarship
- Demonstrated financial need (Pell eligible), as determined by the Office of Financial Aid, is required to be awarded the scholarship
- Scholarship renewal for each year is based upon maintenance of a) good standing in the program and b) satisfactory academic progress (SAP), which is determined by the Office of Financial Aid

Please select each statement to indicate that you understand the requirements of the DU Puksta Scholars program:

- Incoming first year Puksta Scholars are required to take CCESL's three-course sequence of two-credit courses during your first year (Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters), to engage the Puksta intercollegiate First Year Program experience, and to develop an ePortfolio
- Continuing Scholars (second, third, and fourth years) are expected to work on and take ownership of their Puksta internships/project, to document their progress, and to develop an ePortfolio
- All Scholars are expected to attend meetings and events such as biweekly program meetings, annual Puksta Passage, one-day Fall retreat, and multi-day Winter retreat
- All Scholars are expected to meet for one-to-ones with the DU Puksta Program Coordinator for support
- (Incoming Puksta Scholars cannot also participate in the Pioneer Leadership Program nor the CWC Women's Leadership Scholars Program)

Once completed, please click the next arrow to submit your application. Thank you!