



2024 ¡Lánzate!/Take Off! Higher Education Travel Award Program

Rules and Regulations

Eligibility Criteria:

- **Student must be enrolled in a college at least 200 miles from their designated home at time of application.**
- Student must be in good academic standing as determined by his or her college.
- Student must have a minimum 2.5 grade point average (GPA).
- Student must be 18 years old or older at time of application.
- All federal government regulations related to air travel and Transportation Security Administration rules must be adhered to, including, but not limited to, producing [a valid government-issued photo ID for air travel](#).
- One application per student must be submitted online by the specified deadline of **April 26, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. CT (Central Time)**. Incomplete applications and applications not submitted online will be disqualified.
- Needed travel must be to/from Southwest Airlines domestic destinations.
- Students will be required to complete and upload an [Enrollment Verification Form](#) with their application (the "Required Documentation"). The Enrollment Verification Form must be signed by the college Registrar's Office and must verify enrollment and grade point average.
- Selected student recipients will be required to complete and sign an [IRS Form W-9](#) with the student's Social Security Number (SSN) or other [Taxpayer Identification Number \(TIN\)](#).
- The student must identify direct or parental ties to a specific country to determine Hispanic origin on the application.
- Common inquiries can be found on our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Essay:

- The student must write a personal essay addressing questions as outlined in the application. The essay must be between 300- and 500-words demonstrating college level writing and grammar skills. Applications with essays with fewer than 300 words or more than 500 words will be disqualified.
- In the essay, student should demonstrate or discuss socio-economic need such as financial need, cultural considerations, etc.
- The essay may be written in Spanish, provided an English translation is included with the application.

Application Checklist:

- Application deadline is April 26, 2024, at 11:59 CT (Central Time).
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- Your [Enrollment Verification Form](#) and must be completed, signed, and ready to upload.
- Please be sure your essays are 300-500 words. Applications not meeting requirements will not be considered. For scholarship essay writing tips, visit academictips.org.

Selection:

- A selection committee comprised of national education advocates and HACU leaders will review all qualified applications and essays.
- Students attending a HACU member institution will receive additional consideration in the individual review phase.
- The decision of the selection committee is final.
- The selection committee will determine up to 185 students who will receive 8 (eight) one-way Southwest flight e-passes.

Southwest flight e-passes & Notification:

¡Lánzate! /Take Off! Travel Award:

- Student must travel to/from Southwest Airlines destinations on published service only.
- NOTE: The application will have drop-down menu for students to select Southwest Airline destinations only.
- The Southwest flight e-pass is valid for one-way travel on Southwest-operated, published, scheduled service in the United States. The Southwest flight e-pass is not valid on interline or codeshare service. The Southwest Airlines flight e-pass is not valid to/from Puerto Rico or any international destinations.
- Ground transportation, hotel accommodations, and travel expenses are not provided. Recipients are responsible for transportation to and from the designated Southwest Airlines destination.
- The Southwest flight e-pass will bear the date of issue and the date of expiration. Southwest e-passes will be valid from August 1, 2024 – August 1, 2025. Expiration dates will not be extended, and travel must be completed on or before the expiration date.
- The Southwest flight e-pass is non-refundable and is not redeemable for cash or credit. The Southwest flight e-pass will not be replaced for any reason, including, without limitation, if lost, stolen, or fraudulently used. The Southwest flight e-pass is non-transferrable and cannot be sold to a third party. Sale, auction, or re-tendering of the Southwest flight e-pass for money or otherwise is strictly prohibited. The Southwest flight e-pass may not be used for promotional purposes unless previously approved by Southwest. Any suspected fraud, misrepresentation, misuse, abuse or violation of the Southwest flight e-pass Rules and Regulations may result in cancellation of the Southwest flight e-pass(es).
- Each individual Southwest flight e-pass is valid for one-way travel. Two Southwest flight e-passes are required to book roundtrip travel.
- Students must meet all rules of the sponsoring organization.
- All recipients must comply with the Southwest Airlines [Contract of Carriage](#).

Notification:

- HACU will send an auto reply e-mail acknowledging receipt of the application.
- No notification will be sent as to whether the application is incomplete or complete.
- By participating, students give permission to HACU to verify enrollment at his or her college.
- HACU will send an email communication to selected students by **July 5, 2024** notifying each student of the selection committee awards.
- Each selected student must acknowledge email communication to accept the award and return the completed IRS W-9 form by email by **July 15, 2024**. Failure to accept the award and return the completed Form W-9 by **July 15, 2024** will result in forfeiture of the travel award.
- Students will receive the awarded number of flight e-passes from Southwest Airlines by **July 31, 2024**.

For additional information, contact HACU Student Services at (210) 692-3805 or scholarship@hacu.net.