

# USA Maria Guadalupe Torres Scholarship Criteria

**Application Deadline: Friday, August 9  
For Enrollment Period Spring 2024**

## **Eligibility**

The USA Scholarship Committee is seeking applications from qualified members. Financial need is not a factor in selecting a recipient; however, preference will be given to active USA members. Incomplete or illegible applications will not be accepted.

This scholarship opportunity is open to all USA members who meet the following criteria:

- Must be a full-time benefits eligible employee of UHCL at the time scholarships are awarded and during the enrollment period.
- Must have completed HR probationary period at the time of the award
- Must be enrolled in credit-based courses at an accredited institution
- Must submit a complete application packet

## **Scholarship Criteria**

- Verification of successful course completion. Successful course completion for purposes of the scholarship aligns with UHCL's tuition reimbursement program's definition (A grade of C or better for undergraduate courses and a B or better for graduate courses).
- Your essay must:
  - Be typed, double-spaced, with 12-point font and 1-inch margins
  - Be a minimum of 1 page, but must not exceed 2 pages in length
  - Include your objective for taking the course(s)
  - Include an explanation of how the course(s) benefit you in your current/future roles at UHCL
  - Include your involvement and notable contributions to USA/UHCL within the past 2 years
- Previous USA Scholarship winners may apply for the scholarship in consecutive semesters.

Essays will be ranked based on the following criteria:

- Benefit of the course(s) to UHCL
- Involvement in USA activities
- Ideas that could benefit USA
- Objective for taking course(s)
- Quality of the writing
- Overall content, style, and cohesiveness
- Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling

## **Required Documentation**

- Completed USA Scholarship Application
- Completed essay (must be formatted as required)
- Verification of successful course completion as described in the scholarship criteria (may be in the form of a grade report, unofficial transcript, or certificate of completion)
- Copy of paid fee statement
- Copy of degree plan for degree-seeking applicants

Please note that award amounts cannot exceed the cost of the course(s). In addition, recipients who receive financial aid are responsible for reporting awards to their financial aid department as required by federal guidelines.

**For any questions, contact Bernie Streeter at [streeter@uhcl.edu](mailto:streeter@uhcl.edu) ext. 2074.**