

# Progress Software Corporation- Mary Székely Scholarship 2022-23

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*TPI Scholarship Site*

## *Scholarship Description*

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**About:** Dedicated to propelling business forward in a technology-driven world, Progress (Nasdaq: PRGS) helps businesses drive faster cycles of innovation, fuel momentum and accelerate their path to success faster through industry leading infrastructure software products. We strive to be a diverse, equitable and inclusive company, where every person—no matter their experience, perspective, identity, or belief—has a sense of belonging.

We created the Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM to commemorate Mary Székely (pronounced: “See-kay”), who served as the company’s co-founder and lead technologist for more than 30 years. Mary was instrumental in Progress becoming known as the trusted provider of infrastructure software products—a mission that Progress continues to this day. She had a deep love for math and science and was influential in our industry at a time when women pursuing careers in STEM were rare. Mary passed away in June 2019 but left an indelible mark on those who had the opportunity to work with her.

Progress will award one four-year renewable scholarship of up to \$10,000 annually to a student that identifies as a woman from Massachusetts who is planning to major in computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems in college. They must also exemplify Mary Székely’s qualities, including, but not limited to, dedication, generosity, and loyalty; strong work ethic; highest personal integrity; passion for learning; a leader, innovator, teacher, mentor and trailblazer.

The scholarship is awarded to a single recipient annually.

**Award:** \$10,000 four-year, renewable scholarship to cover tuition, fees and educational expenses while pursuing an undergraduate degree.

**Selection of Recipients:** The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI), a division of The Boston Foundation, oversees the management of the scholarship and ensures it complies with IRS rules for awarding scholarships.

Scholarship recipients will be chosen on the basis of academic achievement; interest and experience in computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems; and personal attributes that exemplify Mary Székely’s qualities, including, but not limited to, dedication, generosity and loyalty; strong work ethic; highest personal integrity; passion for learning; a leader, innovator, teacher, mentor and trailblazer.

**Timeline:**

- Complete applications are due **Friday, March 11, 2022 by 5pm ET.**
- Selected applicants will be invited for interviews in April.
- Scholarship recipient will be announced in late April/early May.
- Scholarship applicants not selected will be notified of decisions via email in May.
- Scholarship recipient will be publicly announced by Progress in June.

**Renewing the Scholarship:**

Scholarship recipients are eligible to renew their scholarship for up to four years in a five-year period while pursuing an undergraduate degree, provided the following requirements are met:

- Submit year-end transcripts.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent)
- Remain enrolled in an accredited university, college, community college or trade school.
- Maintain a major in **computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems.**
- A student may take up to one academic year off from enrollment in college and remain eligible to retain their scholarship provided all four years of the scholarship are completed within five years from the date of the original award.

**Revisions:** TPI and Progress Software reserves the right to review the eligibility and terms of this scholarship and to make changes at any time, including termination of the program.

Thank you for your interest in the Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM. Please read these instructions carefully before filling out your application.

Complete applications are due **Friday, March 11, 2022 by 5PM.**

## *Requirements*

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**ELIGIBILITY****Requirements:**

The Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM scholarship recipient must meet the following eligibility requirements. The candidate must:

- Identify as a woman.
- Be a resident of Massachusetts and a U.S citizen or permanent resident eligible for federal financial aid.

- Plan to major in **computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems.**
- Be a high school senior or high school graduate who plans to enroll OR is currently enrolled in an accredited university, college, community college or trade school.
- Have a cumulative high school unweighted GPA above 3.2 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent)
- Desire to make meaningful contribution in the fields of **computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems.**

**Exclusions:**

- Progress Software employees, board members, and their family members are not eligible.
- Students in graduate school are not eligible.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following materials are required. Only fully completed applications will be considered.

- **Complete** application submitted online.
- Two **essays** are required (250 words each)
  - Please review essay prompts below
- **High School Transcript** (must have a cumulative unweighted GPA above 3.2 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent).
- **Letter of Recommendation** from a teacher attesting to the student's passion and commitment to achieving their goals.
- **Resume**
- **Student Aid Report (SAR) from Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**

## *Instructions*

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**Completing your application**

- To preview the application, click on the **Print Questions** button in the upper right-hand corner. You should do this prior to beginning the application to review the questions.
- Click the **Save as Draft** button at the bottom of the page to save your responses. To return to your application on a later date, log in and click on your application under your contact information. It will be marked Draft until you submit it.
- Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) are required. You will not be able to submit your application until all required questions are answered.
- If you would like to save a copy of this application, click on **Application Packet** button at the top of the page.

- Recommender must upload a letter of recommendation to the student's online application.

### Submitting your application:

- All attachments must be submitted in **.pdf, .doc, or .docx** format.
- You must submit your application for it to be considered. Once you submit your application, you will receive an email confirming its receipt. If you do not receive this email, then it has not been properly submitted and will not be reviewed. Log back into your account to submit, or email **progress@tpi.org**.
- To request a recommendation, enter the email address of your reference in the space provided, then click "Compose Email" to send them an email requesting a reference. They will receive an email from the system which will include a link for them to click on, answer questions, and upload their letter of recommendation.
- Your recommender will continue to be able to submit their letter even after you click "submit." You do not need to wait for your recommendation to be uploaded in order to submit your application.

**Important:** Review your application before clicking "submit". Make sure all attachments are uploaded in **.pdf, .doc, or .docx** format, and your answers are complete and clear. Click on the "Application Packet" button to view your application in the form the reviewers will see it. **Applications that have blank, unreadable attachments, or don't load correctly will not be considered**. Please note that **.jpeg** files are not able to be viewed. It is important that you look over your application to make sure everything has been properly submitted.

If you have any questions or need help uploading documents to your application, please contact Sharon Rajadurai at [progress@tpi.org](mailto:progress@tpi.org).

## *Student Contact Information*

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**Applicant Name\***

*Character Limit: 100*

**Last Name\***

*Character Limit: 100*

**Gender\***

Do you identify as a woman?

*Please note that you must identify as a woman to be eligible for the scholarship.*

**Choices**

Yes

No

**Date of Birth\***

*Example: 01/01/2000*

*Character Limit: 10*

## *Student Demographic Information*

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**Race / Ethnicity\*****Choices**

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Hispanic or Latino

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White (including Middle Eastern)

Multi-racial

**U.S. Citizen?\*****Choices**

Yes

No

**Legal Status\*****Choices**

U.S. Citizen

Permanent Resident Alien

**Were you born in the U.S.?\*****Choices**

Yes

No

**Country of Origin**

If you were not born in the U.S., where were you born?

*Character Limit: 25*

**First generation college?\***

Are you among the first generation in your immediate family to attend college?

**Choices**

Yes  
No

**Other\***

How did you learn about this scholarship?\*

**Choices**

High School or Guidance Counselor  
After school or summer program  
College contact  
Online  
Friend  
Other

## *Family/Household Information*

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**Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

Found on the first page of the FAFSA SAR.

*Character Limit: 20*

**2021 Family Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)**

Line #85 on the Student's FAFSA SAR.

*If you do not have access to this figure in your FAFSA SAR, you can find it on line 7 of your 1040 tax form. If your family uses another version of the 1040 form, you can figure out how to find your AGI here: <https://turbotax.intuit.com/tax-tips/irs-tax-return/how-to-find-your-adjusted-gross-income-agi-to-e-file-your-tax-return/L2BNspAbm>*

*Character Limit: 20*

**Number of Family Members Supported by Family Income**

*Character Limit: 2*

**Number of Immediate Family Members in College in 2022-23**

*Character Limit: 2*

## High School Information

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### High School: Name\*

Character Limit: 150

### High School: Location\*

City, State

Character Limit: 100

### High School: Month and year of Graduation

Example: 05/2022 (May 2022)

Character Limit: 7

### High School GPA- Unweighted\*

If school does not provide unweighted GPAs please enter "0." We will consider this a "N/A" response.

Character Limit: 20

### High School GPA- Weighted\*

If school does not provide weighted GPAs please enter "0." We will consider this a "N/A" response.

Character Limit: 20

### GPA- Other

If your High School GPA is not calculated on a 4.0 scale, please indicate the scale used (e.g. 4.5, 5.0, 100, etc.).

Character Limit: 10

## College Choice(s)

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Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited university, college, community college or trade school in 2022-23.

Please list, in order of preference, the university, college, community college or trade school you hope to attend in the fall of 2022.

### First Choice College - Name\*

Character Limit: 100

### First Choice College - Location\*

City, State

*Character Limit: 100*

### First Choice College - Application Status\*

Have you been accepted to your First Choice College?

#### Choices

Yes.

I am still waiting for a decision.

### Second Choice College - Name

*Character Limit: 100*

### Second Choice College - Location

*City, State*

*Character Limit: 100*

### Second Choice - Application Status

Have you been accepted to your Second Choice College?

#### Choices

Yes.

I am still waiting for a decision.

### Third Choice College - Name

*Character Limit: 100*

### Third Choice College - Location

*City, State*

*Character Limit: 100*

### Third Choice - Application Status

Have you been accepted to your Third Choice College?

#### Choices

Yes.

I am still waiting for a decision.

### Fourth Choice College - Name

*Character Limit: 100*

### Fourth Choice College - Location

*City, State*

*Character Limit: 100*

### Fourth Choice College - Application Status

Have you been accepted to your Fourth Choice College?

#### Choices

Yes.

I am still waiting for a decision.

### Additional college choices

Please list school name, city, state and application status. (*Example: Boston University, Boston, MA, I am still waiting for a decision*).

Character Limit: 250

### Major/Field of Study\*

What is your anticipated course of study in college? E.g. computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems

Character Limit: 50

### College: Living Situation\*

#### Choices

Live on campus

Live off campus

Living at home with family

## Essays

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### Essay One\*

Essay One (250 words) prompts. Please select **one prompt** to write about:

- *Share your passion for STEM and what you hope to achieve in the field.*
- *Describe an achievement or series of achievements related to computer information systems, software engineering, IT and/or computer science that you are most proud of.*

Character Limit: 3000

### Essay Two\*

Essay two (250 words) prompts. Please select **one prompt** to write about:

- *Provide insight about how you have impacted others or provided opportunities for others that may not have previously existed. Examples may include mentorship, community engagement and/or philanthropic efforts.*
- *Progress has a keen focus on Inclusion & Diversity (I&D). Talk about how you've supported inclusion and diversity in your community, school or elsewhere.*

Character Limit: 3000

## Required Attachments

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Please attach the following **required attachments**.

**Transcript:** Transcripts must be received by the application deadline. Grade reports are not acceptable. Online transcripts may be uploaded to your application and must display the following information:

- student name
- school name
- grade received
- the term in which each course was taken

*If your school does not provide transcripts to students, please upload a word document explaining that, and have your school email your transcript to [progress@tpi.org](mailto:progress@tpi.org). Transcripts can also be mailed to*

*Progress Software- Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM  
c/o The Philanthropic Initiative  
75 Arlington Street, Suite 710  
Boston, MA 02116*

### Transcript: Unofficial or Official?\*

Which type of transcript are you attaching?

#### Choices

Official  
Unofficial

### Transcript\*

Please attach a copy of your transcript.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

### Resume\*

Please attach your resume.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

### FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR)\*

Please attach a copy of your FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR) in .pdf format. **We can not accept web pages, html, or jpeg documents.** *You can obtain a copy by going to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and printing/saving your entire SAR (it should be five pages long).*

*File Size Limit: 3 MB*

## Certification

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*All of the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also attest that I am not a Progress Software employee, board member or a family member of a Progress Software employee or board member.*

### Electronic Signature of Applicant\*

*Please type your full name.*

*Character Limit: 50*

### Today's Date\*

*Character Limit: 10*

**Once your application is submitted, you may view your application at any time by returning to your online account. However, you will not be able to make any changes.**

## Recommendation

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### Recommender's Email Address\*

Please enter the email address of your recommender below, and click "Compose Email" to send them a personal email asking them to be a reference. *Do not put your own email address here.* Your recommender will receive an automated second email from this system that will include a link for them to click on and answer questions. Below are generic instructions for you to copy and paste into your email if you'd like to use them. If your recommender did not receive an email then first ask them to check their spam folder. If the email isn't there ask him or her to send the recommendation letter to [progress@tpi.org](mailto:progress@tpi.org).

*Thank you for taking the time to serve as a reference for me for the Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM. You'll receive another email from [administrator@grantinterface.com](mailto:administrator@grantinterface.com) which will include a link. This link will provide instructions on how to upload your recommendation to my application. The application is due by 5PM on March 11, 2022.*

*Character Limit: 254*

*Please submit a recommendation from a professor, teacher, who can attest to the your passion and commitment to achieving your goals in STEM.*

### Attach Recommendation Letter here\*

Thank you for serving as a reference for an applicant to the Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM. Scholarship recipients will be chosen on the basis of academic achievement; interest and experience in computer information systems, software engineering, IT and/or computer science; and personal attributes that exemplify Mary Székely's qualities,

including dedication, generosity and loyalty; strong work ethic; highest personal integrity; passion for learning; a leader, innovator, teacher, mentor and trailblazer. Please include your name, position & relationship to student below, write a letter of recommendation, and upload it using the link below. As part of your letter, please comment on the student's:

- Ability and motivation to succeed in college.
- Passion and commitment to achieving their goals in STEM.
- Personal attributes and qualities.

Please note the applicant will not be able to read the recommendation.

**\*Deadline to upload your letter is 03/11/2022\***

*File Size Limit: 3 MB*

 **Recommender's Full Name\***

*Character Limit: 250*

 **Recommender's position/title and affiliation\***

*Character Limit: 250*

 **How long have you known the applicant?\***

*Character Limit: 250*

 **In what capacity do you know the applicant?\***

*Character Limit: 250*