



French-American Chamber of Commerce Foundation
2024 Serge Bellanger Scholarship Program - Candidate Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1. PURPOSE

Per FACC Foundation by-laws:

The purpose of the FACC Foundation is “to inform French and American persons about different cultures and overseas experiences, promote cross-cultural dialogue and communications, improve foreign language skills, and to engage in other charitable purposes, within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code...”

2. ELIGIBILITY

Nationality

Candidates should be citizens of France and/or the United States.

Degree subject matter

The FACC Foundation provides financial support to French students seeking to pursue an MBA in the U.S., and to American students who wish to pursue an MBA, a master's degree or *mastère spécialisé* in a business-related discipline in France. Those who do not fit this specific criterion need not apply.

Candidates must have been accepted into an accredited business school program in the United States or France. Those pursuing degrees such as an MSc in Finance or Marketing in a business school are eligible. Those pursuing a law degree, even in an area such as business law, are not eligible.

Previous international experience

The Serge Bellanger Scholarships are intended to promote “exchange”. Therefore, applicants should be “moving overseas” (leaving France to go to the U.S. or vice-versa) to pursue their graduate degrees. The below scenarios related to French nationals apply *in reverse to American candidates*.

- A French national who attended elementary or high school in the United States or another country other than France but completed their undergraduate degree in France is eligible for a scholarship to return to the U.S. for graduate school.
- A French national who attended a U.S.-based university *as part of* their French undergraduate program (for a maximum of one year) would also be eligible for a scholarship to a U.S.-based business school so long as they graduated from a non-U.S.-based undergraduate program.
- A French national who received his or her undergraduate degree from an American university would not be eligible for a scholarship to attend graduate school in the United States.

Previous FACC Foundation Scholarship winners

Scholarship winners may apply for a second scholarship in year two of their programs, however, priority is given to new applicants.

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

Serge Bellanger Scholarship awards are **merit-based** (not need-based). Academic and professional achievements are the foremost factors considered by the jury. The weight of each depends on the candidate's experience. Academic achievement will carry more weight for recent graduates, and less for more experienced professionals. In the latter case, professional experience and success will carry more weight. The jury also places significant weight on letters of recommendation which must be from an individual with personal and thorough knowledge of the candidate. Letters of recommendation from those with only a passing or superficial familiarity with the applicant will be disregarded.

It is expected that candidates will be prepared to demonstrate their past and/or future (potential) commitment and contribution to future French-American business relationships.

Eligibility and selection criteria and the distribution (or not) of scholarships remain at the entire and absolute discretion of the FACC Foundation Board of Directors, who reserve the right to change criteria and eligibility requirements at any time with or without notice.

The Foundation is an equal opportunity organization and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender preference, or national origin.