

Student Application

Mary E. Campos has dedicated her life serving others and the community. The Al Éxito scholarship is based on the principals that Mrs. Campos has set for active community leaders, civic engagement, volunteerism, empowering the Latino community, and overcoming challenges.

The candidate must be a graduating high school or undergraduate college student actively participating in an Al Éxito program. Candidates must show dedication to Al Éxito, community service, education and culture.

Those interested in applying for the Al Éxito Mary E. Campos Scholarship must do the following;

1. Submit a completed application (*Listed below*) and an essay of 2 pages max.
2. Submit a short paragraph biography & headshot photo that will be used for an Al Éxito press release.

Requirements to participate:

- Applicant is a graduating high school senior or an undergraduate college student up through their junior year.
- An **active** participant of an Al Éxito program
- Has at least a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 GPA scale. If minimum GPA requirements are not met, please provide an explanation in addition to essay questions.
- Completed at least 10 hours of community service within the past school year.
- Has completed application and attachments by online submission only by **5PM, February 16, 2026, to gabby@alexitoiowa.org.**

Additional assistance with this application and other scholarships:

Contact or attend **Al Éxito College Coaching Program facilitator, Naylea Verdinez**, for help with the application or essay review. verdineznaylea@gmail.com

(Attend the program for weekly updates on other scholarships or assistance with FASFA)

A point system will be used to select finalists



Al Éxito Mary E. Campos Scholarship



TERMS

Al Éxito will award scholarships to qualified, **active**, Al Éxito program participants who are attending an accredited college or university in the United States. Scholarships may be used for the payment of tuition, academic fees, room, board, and/ or the purchase of required educational materials and books.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must submit the following for the application to be considered for the Mary Campos Al Éxito scholarship:

- Completed and signed application form
- Verification of enrollment from the institution the student is attending (i.e. – letter of acceptance, a letter from the registrar, or a transcript)
- Typed personal essay of two pages max, typed in English, single spaced, 11 pt font, 1 inch margins
- Short paragraph biography and photograph headshot for press release

Name:

_____	_____	_____
First	Middle Initial	Last

Address

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Number	Street	City	State	Zip

Telephone Number: (____) ____ - ____

E-Mail (Non High School Required): _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ **Phone (if different):** _____

Address (if different):

Parent E-Mail: _____



Al Éxito Mary E. Campos Scholarship



Please check/ circle/ highlight *all* the Al Éxito programs that you are a participant or have worked over the years: Mark all that apply

Al Éxito College
Coaching Online

Al Éxito University

Belmond

Clarion

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Des Moines Middle
School (Any)

Des Moines Movimiento
(Any)

Hampton
(Middle or High School)

Indian Hills Community
College Collegiate

Iowa State Collegiate

Marshalltown
(Middle or High School)

Marshalltown Mujeres

NIACC Scholars Club

PAPAYA Summer

Ottumwa
(Middle or High School)

Perry
(Middle or High School)

Tama/Toledo
(Middle or High School)

In what grade did you join an Al Éxito Program: _____

How many years have you been participating in Al Éxito programs? Circle

7+ Years	4-6 years	1-3 years
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What is your current attendance in the program? Circle: 25% 50% 75% 100%

Mark Current Status:

- ☐ Graduating High School Student
☐ Returning College Student
☐ College Freshman

- ☐ College Sophomore
☐ College Junior

College Student ID # _____ Name of College Attending or Accepted: _____

Major/Focus: _____ High School: _____

Current GPA: _____

EXTRA POINTS: 1pt Each

YES NO Are you a first-generation college student?

YES NO Have you ever been or are you an English
Language Learner?

YES NO Do you live in a single-parent household or
live alone?

YES NO Are you a guardian or parent?

YES NO Have / are your parent/s detained or
deported?

YES NO Are your parent/s supporting other kids in
college? If so, how many? _____

YES NO Have you worked with Al Éxito as a paid
contractor, youth leader, facilitator, or special project?



Al Éxito Mary E. Campos Scholarship



List honors, awards, extra-curricular activities, and community involvement including locations volunteered and total hours (Use separate sheet if necessary)

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS AND NAME OF ORGANIZATION SERVED

HONORS/AWARDS

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

MARY E. CAMPOS INFORMATION

Mary E. Campos is a celebrated civil rights leader in Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. Campos spends countless hours helping the community, especially non-English speaking Latinos. She was the first Latino inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. In August of 2017, she received the ACLU 2017 Edward S. Allen Award. She earned an Ohtli Award, the highest honor given from the Mexican Government to a Mexican descendent whose efforts have contributed significantly to the well-being, prosperity, and empowerment of Mexican communities abroad. Mrs. Campos serves on several boards and councils such as the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, and League for United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), and is very active in the church. Mrs. Campos also was one of the founders of the National Black and Brown Presidential Forum. Mrs. Campos continues to mentor youth and adults and help countless people gain citizenship.

PERSONAL ESSAY

Please type an essay answering the following questions. (2 pages max, single-spaced, 11pt font minimum)

1. Describe how Al Éxito has shaped who you are today and what your participation in the program has taught or impacted your life.
2. Discuss any challenges or obstacles you have dealt with and overcome in life and how this has or will help you succeed in college.
3. How have you made an impact in your community, such as Mary E. Campos has made?
4. How will you utilize your education to make a difference in the world?

TIME SCHEDULE

- Application Due: 5PM, February 16th, 2026
- Awards Notification Monday, March 10, 2026
- Awards Saturday, April 11, 2026, 6pm

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE IN YOUR SUBMISSION

Completed and Signed Application

Typed personal essay of two pages max, typed in English, single spaced, 11 pt font, 1 inch margins

List honors, awards, extra-curricular activities, and community involvement

Biography and Photo

Proof of GPA (Explanation not meeting GPA requirement if applicable)

Copy of College Acceptance or Attendance

Applicant's signature required. Please read, sign and date below:

I certify that all of the information included in this application is true and complete.

Printed Full Legal Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Rubric Category	Points	5 Points	3 Points	1 Point
Essay				
Engagement in Al Exito	5	Explained clearly how Al Exito has made a significant impact on their life. Extremely engaged in the program for multiple years and programs . Has a leadership role with organization.	Al Exito has had some impact on the student's life. They are somewhat engaged in the program.	Did not address how they participated in Al Exito nor how the program impacted their life.
Learning from life challenges to be successful	5	Had many challenges in their life that they have overcome and learned from.	Had a few challenges in their life that they are dealing with and are learning from.	Did not articulate any challenges that they have overcome or learned from.
Impact Made in Community	5	Extremely involved in their community. They have contributed to the well-being of the community.	Somewhat involved in their community. They have somewhat contributed to the well-being of the community.	Did not provide samples of how they contributed to the community.
Making a Difference in the World	5	Has a clear plan of how they will use their education to make a difference in the world.	Somewhat clear how they will use their education to possibly make a difference in the world.	Does not have a plan or desire to make a difference in the world.
Total Essay	20 points			
Volunteer Hours	5	Over 10 hours	10 hours only	Less than 10 hours
Honors/ Awards, Extra-curriculars, & Community involvement	5	Very Active	Somewhat Active	Not Active
GPA	5	3.5 GPA and Above	2.5 GPA - 3.4 GPA and/or provided a valid explanation	1.0 - 2.4 GPA and did not provide explanation
Total Points	35 Points			
Extra Considerations Points		Eligible/ Yes Add the Point		
First Generation College Student	1			
English Language Learner	1			
Single Parent Household/ Lives Alone	1			
Student is a parent or guardian	1			
Parent is Detained or Deported	1			
Supporting Other Children	1			
Is/ was a leader role with Al Éxito	1			
TOTAL POINTS	42			