County of Sacramento

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

BACKGROUND
Employees of Sacramento County’s Department of Human Assistance raise funds and seek donations annually to award college scholarships to graduating high school seniors living in Sacramento County. This collaborative college scholarship program is available to encourage graduating seniors from low-income families to pursue an education at an accredited college, university, technical or trade school.

Eligibility for scholarships is without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or political affiliation. Employees of Sacramento County and their families, except for employees working in the Classification of student aide, are not eligible.

PURPOSE OF SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship is awarded each year to promote:
Higher Education
Economic Resilience
Stronger Communities

Scholarship recipients will be notified mid-April 2020. Cash awards will be presented at a ceremony to be held in the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 700 H Street (downtown Sacramento) on Thursday, May 14th at 5:00 p.m.

ELIGIBILITY (All applications are subject to verification and proof of eligibility)
✓ Must be currently living in Sacramento County.
✓ Must be a graduating high school senior from the class of 2020.
   entering a two- or four-year accredited college, university, or technical/trade school.
✓ Must have a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) of 2.5.
✓ Must be on public assistance or low income. Submit current verification of public assistance or if not on public assistance, IRS tax form 1040 (2019).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
1) All applications must include the following:
✓ Official sealed high school transcript(s) - copies will not be accepted.
✓ Two letters of recommendation from references who can comment on students leadership/academic abilities (at least one must be from a teacher).
✓ Acceptance letter or proof of enrollment - scholarship check will not be issued unless proof of acceptance is provided.
2) Essays must be typed and be at least 800 words.
3) Students must title their essay to indicate the essay question they are answering.
4) Applicant and parent/guardian must sign application.
5) Application must be postmarked by Friday, March 13, 2020.

Applications are available from: • School/Counselor’s Office • All DHA Bureaus • Online, at: http://www.dha.saccounty.net

NOTE: The online application is a PDF file and requires a special reader application, which may be downloaded from the Adobe Acrobat site.

USE OF SCHOLARSHIP
The DHA Scholarship shall be applied toward educational expenses in any field of study at an accredited college, university, technical, or trade school.
✓ Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted. Please answer all questions.
✓ All information will remain confidential and will not affect the household’s financial assistance.

YOU MAY HAVE POTENTIAL ENTITLEMENT TO BENEFITS UNDER A PROGRAM KNOWN AS THE COLLEGE FEE WAIVER PROGRAM. For Veterans PLEASE CLICK ON THE RESOURCE LINK @ www.dha.saccounty.net OR CONTACT DHA AT (916) 874-6811.
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Student’s Name: (Ms.) □ (Mr.) □

Last First Middle

Address: ____________________________
Street Apt.

City County State Zip Code

Mailing Address: (If Different) ________________
Street / P.O. Box Apt.

City County State Zip Code

E-mail Address: ____________________________

Telephone Number: (____) ___________ Cell Phone Number: (____) ___________

Date of Birth: ____________________________ Ethnicity (optional): ________________
Month-Day-Year

Parent/Guardian Name(s): ____________________________

Last First Middle

Mailing Address: ____________________________
Street/P.O. Box Apt.

City State Zip Code

Telephone Number: (____) ___________

How did you hear about the DHA Scholarship? □Counselor □DHA Office □Parent

Is Anyone in your Household Receiving Public Assistance? □Yes □No

Type of Program(s)? □CalWORKs □Foster Care □MediCal □Other *Please provide verification, i.e. Aid Verification Form.

Are you or Anyone in your Household an Employee of Sacramento County? □Yes □No
(Employees working in the classification of student aide are excluded)

Total Annual Household Income: $____________. How many people are in the household? ___________

[MUST include entire household income if applicant is under 18 years old and not in Foster Care. Example: parent(s), guardian(s), applicant]
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High School: ________________________________

Address: __________________________________________
Street __________________________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip Code _______

Counselor’s Name: ________________________________

Telephone Number: (_____) __________________________

Graduation Date: _________________________________

Cumulative Grade Point Average (G.P.A.): ____________

* Must include official sealed high school transcripts with application (unsigned copies will not be accepted).

College / University / Trade School
Currently or Planning to Attend: ______________________

Have you been accepted? □Yes □No
Course of Study: ________________________________

Address: _________________________________________
Street __________________________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip Code _______

* Must include acceptance letter, proof of enrollment or proof of application.

High School Teacher Reference:
(1) Name: _______________________________________

Position: _______________________________________

Telephone Number: (_____) __________________________

How long have you known this person? _______ Years _______ Months _______ 

Non-Relative Reference (High School Teacher preferred):
(2) Name: _______________________________________

Relationship: _____________________________________

Telephone Number: (_____) __________________________

How long have you known this person? _______ Years _______ Months _______

* Must include a letter of recommendation from each reference.
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Please list and describe your academic achievements and involvement in extracurricular activities.
For Example: School Activities / Community Involvement / Work Experience (please attach additional pages for description)

1) __________________________________________
2) __________________________________________
3) __________________________________________

Essay Questions:
Students must type and title their essay, and indicate which essay question they are answering.
Font style Times New Roman, size 12, and double spaced.
Please choose 1 of the following 4 essay topics. All essays must be at least 800 words.

1) Describe any challenges or obstacles and how they have influenced your educational goals.
2) Describe how you’ve demonstrated leadership in and out of school.
3) Who in your life has been your biggest influence in pursuing a college education and in what way(s)?
4) Why do you want to get a college education?

COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED by March 13, 2020 and mailed to the address below.
We are not responsible for lost mail or late postal deliveries.

Mailing Address: DHA Scholarship Committee, Sandra Espindola, AE70
1725 28th Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Applications are available from: • School/Counselor’s Office • All DHA Bureaus
• Online, Internet Site: http://www.dha.saccounty.net/scholarship/Pages/Scholarship-Program.aspx

NOTE: The online application is a PDF file and requires a special reader application, which may be downloaded from Adobe Acrobat® site if you do not already have it.

I have read and understand the rules that apply to completing this form. This form has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and believe is true, correct, and complete. I furthermore agree to the terms and conditions that bind this scholarship program. Also I, ____________________________,
☐ consent / ☐ do not consent to having my name, photograph, image, and or quotes used for publication in newsletters, annual reports, videos, Internet web page, and presentation displays by Sacramento County’s Department of Human Assistance. I understand that members of the general public may see my picture/image.

Student’s Signature: ____________________________ Date ____________________________

Parent / Guardian Signature: ____________________________ Date ____________________________

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CHECK LIST

Please Check Each Box to Validate the Accurate Completion of Your Application

☐ Read the Scholarship Program Rules Sheet.

☐ Official sealed high school transcript(s)
  **Must be signed and sealed. Copies will not be accepted.**

☐ Two letters of recommendation
  - One letter must be from a high school teacher and the other one may be from any non-relative.
  - Letters should be from references who can comment on your academic ability, leadership, community involvement and school activities/achievements.

☐ Acceptance letter, proof of enrollment or proof of application from the college you are scheduled to attend.
  **No scholarship award check will be issued until proof of acceptance is provided.**

☐ Essay is typed and titled with the essay question being answered.

☐ Essay is 800 words or more – final application scores are based largely on the essay and essays will be graded on content, spelling and grammar.

☐ Current verification of public assistance or if not on assistance, IRS tax form 1040 (2018)

☐ Applicant signed application.
  - Applicant answered question about consent to use name, photo, quotes for publication.

☐ Parent/Guardian(s) signed application if applicant is under 18.

☐ All questions on the form were answered. No answers were left blank.

☐ Application postmarked by **Friday, March 13, 2020**

GOOD LUCK!