



April 15, 2021

Dear VAHCDO Members:

Each year, VAHCDO is honored to award scholarships to exceptional high school students who reside in housing provided by a member PHA. We understand that higher education is often unattainable for students who most want it and even the best students may not be able to pursue undergraduate studies due to a lack of financial resources.

Last year, VAHCDO awarded \$16,000 in scholarship funds to high school students eager to pursue higher education. This year, we will again invest in the lives of our youth with the hope that they will use their education as a springboard to a brighter future.

I am asking all VAHCDO members to spread the word about the availability of financial resources for college to all students in their housing programs. Just forward this information to a potential college student and encourage them to apply. If you have any questions, visit www.vahcdo.org or contact:

Wanda Daniel
Scholarship Chairperson
Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority
804.780.4832
Email: wanda.daniel@rrha.com

The application deadline is April 30, 2021 so encourage someone to apply today!

In Service,

Philip Page, Jr.

President – Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete and sign the attached application form only in the space provided. Any attachment not requested such as resumes will not be used in evaluating the application.
2. The following MUST be submitted with the application:
 - A copy of high school transcripts listing Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Ranking (MINIMUM 2.5 CUMULATIVE GPA). Note: For those schools that do not have GPA, please provide SAT Scores (MINIMUM of 900).
 - Two SIGNED letters supporting the character, achievements, and potential for education and career advancement of the applicant. One of the letters MUST be from a school official (principal, counselor, teacher, etc.). The other letter must be from a minister, coach, employer or any person with significant knowledge of the applicant.
 - A SIGNED sponsorship letter from the Executive Director of the Housing Authority in which the applicant resides. Sponsorship requires a commitment on the part of the Authority to support travel expenses (one day). The authority will be required to transport any applicant(s) to a designated location should the applicant be selected for interviewing as one of the finalists. The agency sponsoring the applicant must be an active agency member of the Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials at the time of application and at the time the scholarship award is made.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Applications and support documents must be received by April 16, 2021. No applications will be accepted by facsimile (fax) transmission. It is the responsibility of the applicant or the Public Housing Authority (PHA) to submit the application form with appropriate transcript and letters as one complete package scanned and emailed to Chairperson. Transcripts or letters mailed directly to the Scholarship Chairperson will not be considered by the Scholarship Committee.
2. Scholarship awards will be made to residents of public housing and other assisted housing in the Commonwealth of Virginia who have maintained their residence for six months prior to February 28, 2021
3. All applicants must graduate no later than June 30, 2021.
4. Funds are to be utilized beginning with the Fall Semester 2021 school year.
5. Finalists and the grantees will be selected by the Scholarship Committee of the Association.

6. The scholarship grantees will be announced at the annual meeting of the Association
TBA Date and Location
7. Requests for scholarship funds should be made to `Deborah Morton either by the student or Housing Authority representative. Scholarship funds will be forwarded to the designated Housing Authority representative to be disbursed to the student or will be sent directly to the student. Requests should include form which identifies the school and lists the student GPA and class schedule to verify full time status.
8. The recipient of the awards must attend an accredited university, college, vocational, technical, or business school.
9. Scholarship recipients will be required to forward a transcript at the end of each semester, to the Scholarship Chairperson or to the housing authority's Scholarship Committee representative.
10. If a scholarship recipient's family moves out of public or assisted housing after the award have been made, the recipient shall be eligible to continue to receive funding provided other guidelines are met.

APPLICATIONS LACKING THE REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, SIGNATURES, AND/OR APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER APRIL 30, 2021, WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.