



2020 NAHRO Merit College Scholarship Application

The NAHRO Merit College Scholarship Program awards \$1,000 each to eight scholars, one from each NAHRO region, who are pursuing their first post-secondary degree. Each NAHRO region submits an applicant of their choice from their own scholarship program. If no regional scholarship program is in place, the region will select one eligible applicant to complete the NAHRO Merit College Scholarship application. The regions' scholarship applications then are judged by the NAHRO Scholarship Committee, which is comprised of Housing America Advisory Committee members.

From these eight scholarship winners, the NAHRO Scholarship Committee will choose three candidates to become a part of the NAHRO-LDG Scholars program, which is a 10-year venture that will provide \$1 million in scholarships and internship opportunities to low-income students from around the country and is funded by the award-winning multi-family housing developer, LDG Development.

Of the eight regional winners, three candidates will be chosen by the NAHRO Scholarship Committee to be a part of the NAHRO-LDG Scholars program. NAHRO-LDG Scholars will receive:

- A \$12,000 scholarship distributed over four years to assist with tuition and fees;
- \$3,000 a year for up to three years, as a summer internship stipend;
- Networking opportunities with business and community leaders.

Scholarship funds for both NAHRO Merit College Scholarship winners and NAHRO-LDG Scholars are sent directly to the scholarship winner's accredited institution of higher education once proof of registration is received.

Who Is Eligible?

1. Scholarship applications are only available to eligible member agencies. An eligible agency is a member agency in good standing with national NAHRO.
2. Eligible individuals are provided a service or live in a household managed by an eligible national NAHRO member agency.
3. Eligible individuals must be a graduating high school senior, possess a high school diploma or GED, and must be applying to or attending an accredited institution of higher education. If currently attending college, applicants must be registered for at least two (2) classes.

When Is the Application Deadline?

Each NAHRO member agency and NAHRO region will have different deadlines – ask your regional representative for details. *National NAHRO must receive each region's chosen scholarship application by July 1, 2020.*

How to Apply

If you are the **scholarship applicant**: complete the scholarship application (see page 2 for the scholarship application process and page 4 for the application form), then return it to the designated staff member at your housing authority before the housing authority's deadline.

If you are the **national NAHRO member agency**: submit your scholarship applications to your regional representative before the region's deadline. Each region will conduct its own judging, and one scholarship candidate per region will be submitted to national NAHRO for consideration.

If you are the **NAHRO regional/scholarship representative**: *Send the winning scholarship application for your region to NAHRO by **July 1, 2020**. Email the scholarship application to Ashanti Wright at awright@nahro.org with the subject: 2020 [Region Name] Scholarship Candidate.*

Application Process

Please review this material carefully. If you have any questions, please contact awright@nahro.org.

For Scholarship Applicant:

1. Fill out and gather all required documents for the application (see checklist on page 3). These are:
 - a. **Information form** (page 4). This form must be reviewed and evaluated by a scholarship representative selected by the region. This could be the Regional or Vice President, RSO or another entity. To be considered complete, all sections of the application must be completed. If a section is not applicable, write N/A (not applicable) in the section; do not leave any sections blank. Any application that has blank sections, or that is missing appropriate submittals or signatures will be disqualified.
 - b. **Two letters of character recommendation**. These can be recommendations from the local housing authority, community or religious organization, employer or academic reference. Letters of recommendation may not come from family members.
 - c. **An unofficial transcript from high school and/or the academic institution the applicant is currently attending** (transcript may be forwarded separate from application but must be postmarked by deadline).
 - d. **Verification of acceptance/attendance** at an accredited institution of higher education.
 - e. **An essay (750-1,000 words) written by the applicant**. Please refer to page 5 for the essay prompt.
 - f. A clear, high-resolution headshot photo of the applicant.
2. Submit these materials to your housing authority, who will then forward them to the state or regional scholarship representative for judging.

For NAHRO Member Agency: Submit the scholarship applications to your regional scholarship representative for the regional judging before your region's deadline. Only one candidate per region will be submitted to NAHRO for consideration. To be eligible for the consideration, your agency must to be a national NAHRO member in good standing.

For NAHRO Regional/Scholarship Representative: After your regional judging, send the winning scholarship application to Ashanti Wright at awright@nahro.org with the subject: 2020 [Region Name] Scholarship Candidate by **July 1, 2020**.

Requirements Checklist

- Information Form
- Unofficial Transcript or GED Certificate
- Educational History
- Educational Plan
- Honors and Awards (Please list award and date e.g. MM/YYYY)
- Financial Requirement
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
- Essay
- Certification Signature
- Photo of Applicant

Information Form

APPLICANT'S NAME: Enter Full Name

LOCAL ADDRESS: [Click here to enter address.](#)

(NUMBER & STREET)

(CITY)

(STATE/ZIP)

DATE OF BIRTH: MM/DD/YYYY

PHONE NUMBER: () - EMAIL: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Which housing and or community development agency are you affiliated with? [Click here to enter agency.](#)

EDUCATION HISTORY

(Check one) High School Graduate/GED Recipient High School Senior

SCHOOLS ATTENDED / DATES ATTENDED/ FINAL GPA/ CREDITS COMPLETED / DEGREES RECEIVED:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

2020-2021 EDUCATION PLANS

What college, university, vocational, or post-secondary school do you plan to attend/ are attending in 2020-2021

(include city & state): [Click here to enter text.](#)

2020-2021 ENROLLMENT STATUS:

Plan to apply

Applied but not yet accepted

Applied and accepted

Anticipated major or vocational goal:

Average length of program (2 years/4 years, etc.): _____

Estimated cost for entire 2020-2021 school year (include tuition, student fees, books, and school supplies only)

HONORS, AWARDS, & COMMUNITY/SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Please list all honors or awards received and any community/school activities in which you have actively participated within the past 5 years (attach extra sheet if needed).

[Click here to enter text.](#)

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

Please provide a statement of estimated cost of education for 2020-2021.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please attach two letters of recommendation from **non-relatives**. Eligible recommendation-writers include a representative from the local housing authority or community organization, an employer or a school professional such as a teacher or a guidance counselor. **No recommendations from family members will be considered.**

List the contact information for these people below. Please include their name, address, phone number, and relationship to you, and length of time you have known them.

Reference One

Reference Two

ESSAY

Please write an essay using 750 – 1,000 words to answer the following questions:

- Where do you see yourself in the next four years and how will this scholarship help you to achieve those goals?
- What are you doing now to achieve those goals?

If you have any unusual circumstances that you would like the scholarship committee to consider, please include them in your essay.

SIGNATURE

BY MY SIGNATURE, I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- That the information I have given is true to the best of my knowledge.
- To maintain satisfactory educational progress.
- To keep NAHRO informed of any changes in schools or enrollment status.
- To provide, or respond to NAHRO requests for, periodic updates on academic progress for the duration of the candidate's receipt of 2020-2021 scholarship funds.
- To consent to the use of my profile, progress, and testimonial, by NAHRO and its subsidiaries, for marketing and fundraising purposes.
- To authorize the office of financial aid to release my grades and pertinent information to NAHRO.
- To authorize the release of my contact information to contractor for the college program (if funded).

Applicant Signature

Date: MM/DD/YYYY

Regional Service Officer or Regional Scholarship Committee Sign-Off Only

Select your region:

- NERC MARC SERC NCRC
 SWRC MPRC PNRC PSWRC

Application submitted by: Name, Title, Region.

Name of National NAHRO Member Agency

Housing, Community Development Agency, or NAHRO Member Agency:

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

I have enclosed with this application:

- Information Form
- Unofficial Transcript
- Educational History
- Educational Plan
- Honors and Awards (Please list award and date e.g. MM/YYYY)
- Financial Requirement
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
- Essay
- Certification Signature

Regional Service Officer or Regional Scholarship Committee Sign-Off

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the individual listed on this scholarship application is associated with this agency and that this agency is a **national NAHRO member**. I also certify that the information contained in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

**All applications and documentation must be received by no later than July 1, 2020 to:
Ashanti Wright via awright@nahro.org with the subject: 2020 (Region Name) Scholarship Candidates**