



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS SCHOLARSHIP

PROCEDURES for 2017-2018 AWARDS

1. Applicant **MUST** be an active paid member of NABSW during the year of application to be eligible.
2. Applicant **MUST** be a full-time Undergraduate, Graduate, or Doctoral level student during the 2017-2018 academic school year.
3. Applicant **MUST** submit two to three pages, double-spaced, typewritten "Statement of Purpose" letter. The following must be included:
 - Professional Interests
 - Future Social Work Aspirations
 - Previous Social Experiences (Volunteer and Professional)
 - Honors and Achievements (Academic and Community Service)
 - Financial Need (Include Current Financial Aid and Scholarships awarded)
 - Research Interests within the black community (Master's and Doctoral Students)
4. Applicant **MUST** submit two letters of recommendations: **One completed by the ABSW Student Chapter Advisor or Chapter President (if affiliated with a community chapter)**, the other by a professor, field instructor, or community-based leader.
5. An official letter from the school registrar's office verifying attendance and "good standing" with the school as well as the student's dates of enrollment.
6. A current official academic transcript. First year MSW students must present their official undergraduate transcript if a current academic transcript is not yet available.
7. Applicant may apply for both a tuition and book scholarship.
8. ***Awardees will receive recognition at NABSW's Annual Conference Luncheon on Thursday, April 13, 2017. The scholarship committee welcomes awardees to be in attendance (conference/luncheon registration at student's expense) if at all possible.***

DEADLINE: 11:59 pm EST on March 3, 2017. Application with supporting documents can be submitted via the NABSW Website at the following **link:**

Or mail to NABSW Scholarships, National Association of Black Social Workers, 2305 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20020. **Students are responsible for ensuring ALL required materials arrive on time. Mailed applications must be RECEIVED at the National Office by March 3, 2017. Late and incomplete applications will NOT be accepted.**

NOTE: Verification of fall 2017 enrollment status must be provided **PRIOR** to receiving scholarship monies. Upon verification, the university or college Office of Financial Services will distribute tuition scholarship funds on behalf of NABSW and book scholarships will be distributed directly to the scholarship winner.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS SCHOLARSHIP

CRITERIA FOR 2017-2018 AWARDS

THE CENIE “JOMO” WILLIAMS TUITION SCHOLARSHIP – (2) Awards of \$2,500

Cenie “Jomo” Williams, Jr. was the first elected President of the National Association of Black Social Workers. He was elected President of the New York City Association of Black Social Workers in 1969, and developed many community programs that brought positive changes in the New York Community, and built the New York City Chapter into the organization’s largest chapter. When elected to the Presidency of the National Association of Black Social Workers in 1970, Williams’ put forth tremendous efforts to develop and organize new chapters, both nationally and internationally.

In 1974, Cenie was appointed the first Executive Director of the National Association of Black Social Workers. As director, he continued his work with the international affiliates which resulted in the development of the National Association of Black Social Workers’ International Education Conference. Until the time of departure in 1983, Cenie never gave up fighting for justice. His passion to serve can only be surpassed by his love for African people everywhere.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American and demonstrate community service.
- Student must express research interest in the black community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **social work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.

THE SELENA DANETTE BROWN BOOK SCHOLARSHIP – (4) Awards of \$250.00

Selena Brown was a social work student at the University of Michigan. She had worked hard to attend school and was killed in Detroit by a family member. Selena was very active in NABSW and highly thought of by student and members of the Association.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American and demonstrate community service.
- Student must express research interest in the black community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **social work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.



THE STELLA BROWNE BOOK SCHOLARSHIP – (1) Award of \$250.00

Stella M. Brown was a Pioneer of the National Association of Black Social Workers. She joined the Atlanta Chapter of NABSW in 1972 and served as Steering Committee Representative. Stella was a dedicated and faithful member of NABSW and volunteered her service and time unselfishly to improve conditions in the Black community. She traveled the world extensively while developing alliances with other social workers and establishing catalyst for social change. Stella was dedicated to empowering others through education and mentorship. This scholarship has been established to continue her legacy by assisting students to achieve their educational and career goals.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American and demonstrate community service.
- Student must express research interest in the black community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **social work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.

THE DR. THERESA L. ROBERTS BOOK SCHOLARSHIP – (1) Award of \$250.00

Dr. Theresa L. Roberts is a Founder and Charter Member of the Central Indiana Chapter, Inc. of the National Association of Black Social Workers. She has been a proud member of NABSW since 1981, having joined various chapters until Central Indiana was chartered in 1985. Dr. Roberts, who is a current member of the Board of Directors, has the distinction of having held every office in her Chapter. Dr. Roberts' leadership and volunteerism in NABSW have been exemplary-her members refers to her as "the glue" of the Chapter. She has dedicated her resources, expertise, and time to empowering, unifying, and mentoring social workers of African descent "by any means necessary". In 1998, the CIC established the Dr. Theresa L. Roberts Proclamation and Annual Legacy Award named in her honor. She also received the NABSW National Distinguished Service Award in 2009 for her pioneering contribution. This book scholarship has been established to continue Dr. Roberts' legacy of academic excellence, professional achievements and community service as an African-centered social worker.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American/ African descent.
- Student must demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, and community service in the Black community.
- Student must demonstrate commitment to African-centered social work.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **social work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.



THE EMMA AND MELOID ALGOOD UNDERGRADUATE TUITION SCHOLARSHIP – (1) Award of \$1,000

Carl Algood established the Emma and Meloid Algood Undergraduate Tuition Scholarship to honor his parents for their unselfish dedication to helping people in need. Their work with the poor, even though they lacked formal training, left an indelible impression upon him. This led to his choice of career as a social worker. Consequently, Mr. Algood, partners with NABSW in providing an annual scholarship to a deserving social work student who will use the training to work with the less fortunate in our communities.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American and demonstrate community service.
- Student must express research interest in the black community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **Bachelor of Social Work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.

THE DR. JOYCE BECKETT GRADUATE STUDENT TUITION SCHOLARSHIP – (1) Award of \$1,000

Dr. Joyce Beckett, a member of the Richmond, VA Chapter of ABSW, funded the Dr. Joyce Beckett Scholarship to help African American graduate students who plan to provide needed social work interventions with African Americans. This annual scholarship is a means of giving back to the African American community. This scholarship is intended to help a student complete graduate work and develop professional skills and talents to work in the African American community.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American and demonstrate community service.
- Student must express research interest in the Black community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **Master of Social Work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.



THE THADDEUS P. MATHIS BOOK SCHOLARSHIP – (1) Award of \$300.00

This scholarship seeks to engage students in the study of African-centered social work. Student applicants should demonstrate an interest in research and scholarship on Africana social work and Africana social policy.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student should have a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student should have a demonstrated interest in community services.
- Student should demonstrate an interest in African Centered Social Work.
- Student must prepare an Autobiographical Statement which locates him/herself in the discourse of Africana social work theory and practice. This statement should include the following components:
 1. The most important shaping events in the student's own life experiences;
 2. A summary of the student's understanding of African-centered social work;
 3. Application of this understanding of African-centered social work to the student's own life experiences; and
 4. The implications of this analysis for the student's practice of social work.

The length of this statement will reflect the applicant's writing style, the complexity of his/her life experiences, and depth of his/her analysis.

GUYNN FAMILY BOOK SCHOLARSHIP- (1) Award of \$250

The Gynn Family Foundation promotes social change, which contributes to a more just and peaceful world. Through its scholarship program, the Foundation supports the efforts of African American students who plan to work in the field of social work. The Foundation's focus is to expand knowledge, to clarify values and critical choices, and to nurture creative expression to help shape public policy. On the macro level, the Foundation seeks to develop leaders, to strengthen and engage citizens and institutions, and to build communities through the establishment of partnerships.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 3.0 Grade Point Average on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American.
- Student must perform 40 hours of community service in an under-served African-American community.
- Student must express research interest in the black community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States social work program in the semester that the award will be granted



ROSETTA PETERKIN BOOK SCHOLARSHIP- (1) Award of \$300

A member of the Miami Dade ABSW Chapter, Rosetta Peterkin was focused on the health and wellness of the Black community. This scholarship is for students intending to pursue a career in the field of health, mental health and disabilities.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American/ African descent.
- Student must demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, service to the African American Community
- Student must demonstrate commitment to African-centered social work.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **social work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.

DELOIS WHITAKER-CALDWELL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP- (1) Award of \$1000

This scholarship is for students intending to pursue a career in the field of Public Policy.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Student must have a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Student must be an African American/ African descent.
- Student must demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, service to the African American Community
- Student must demonstrate commitment to African-centered social work.
- Student must be interested in pursuing a career in an area of public policy that has a significant/direct impact on the African American community.
- Student must be enrolled for full-time study at an accredited United States **social work** program in the semester that the award will be granted.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS SCHOLARSHIP

CRITERIA for 2017-2018 AWARDS

SELECTE SCHOLARSHIP(S) FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING:

- Cenie "Jomo" Williams Tuition Scholarship (\$2,500)
- Selena Brown Book Scholarship (\$250)
- Stella M. Browne Book Scholarship (\$250)
- Dr. Theresa L. Roberts Book Scholarship (\$250)
- Emma and Meloid Algood Tuition Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Dr. Joyce Beckett Tuition Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Thaddeus P. Mathis Book Scholarship (\$300)
- Guynn Family Book Scholarship (\$250)
- Rosetta Peterkin Book Scholarship (\$300)
- Delois Whitaker-Caldwell Tuition Scholarship (\$1000)

APPLICANT NAME: _____

CURRENT COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: _____

EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ATTENDING in 2017-2018 _____

NABSW CHAPTER AFFILIATION: _____

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR A COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET: *(Check off when complete)*

- Completed Application
- Statement of Purpose Letter
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Official School Registrar Letter
- Official Academic Transcript

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Verified by _____ Date _____



Advice: Do's and Don'ts for Writing Personal Statements

Nearly all scholarship applications involve writing a personal statement. Sometimes this is the only piece of original writing required of applicants, other times there are additional short statements or project proposals to write. Here are some important things to remember.

Do...

1. **Think of the personal statement as an "intellectual autobiography."** The statement should convey to your readers a clear, thoughtful picture or impression of you as a person who has distinct interests, motivations, accomplishments, aims and ideas.
2. **Aim to define a central idea, impression or theme you hope to convey.** The most memorable personal statements are ones that have a clear theme or purpose that unifies the ideas and information presented. Sometimes you'll know what this theme should be in advance; sometimes it will emerge as you begin drafting your statement.
3. **Keep it simple.** It's easy to over-write a one-page personal statement. Use the words and language you would naturally use in writing a thoughtful, intelligent letter to a friend or trusted mentor.
4. **Use specifics.** Help your readers remember you (and your application) by using specific names, references and illustrations. For example, always say "my internship with the Sierra Club's bald eagle project" rather than "my internship with a renowned environmental organization's project to save an endangered species." Note which sounds more real and natural, and which sounds impersonal and artificial. (See "don't" number 4 below.)
5. **Find the "story" in your history.** Your life has been a journey, with planned and unexpected turns, with successful and frustrated goals, with hard-earned and accidental insights, with hoped-for but as-yet-unrealized achievements. Your basic challenge in writing a compelling personal statement is to tell the story that makes sense of your life as it has been, is, and could be.
6. **Welcome the reader into your life and goals.** Scholarships are looking for promising people, not high-powered profiles. Write to engage your reader, write in a way that invites him or her to want to meet and get to know you – even if your scholarship process does not involve an interview stage.

Don't...

1. **Write to impress.** Scholarship selection committees have seen and heard it all. Let your credentials and awards speak for themselves. Use your personal statement to talk to your readers about the things that motivate, inspire and shape you. Help them to understand what your specific accomplishments have meant to you, or how they have shaped you. Help them to understand why you care about the things you care about.



2. **Write in clichés.** Ask yourself if each and every sentence in your draft reflects some thought, fact, reflection or experience of your own. Avoid sentences that could have been written by absolutely anyone. Avoid stock phrases or expressions.

3. **Re-write your resume in prose.** Again, selection committees are looking for the person behind the credentials. Avoid laundry lists of activities, etc., and focus on the select few experiences that have meant the most to you, or have had the greatest influence on your development and aims.

4. **Be too general or abstract.** Don't distance your reader by using vague references or abstractions in your essay. You (or your roommate) may think it sounds more impressive to say "my internship with a renowned environmental organization's project to save an endangered species," but that doesn't really tell the reader what organization you worked for or what species was being helped. They would rather meet the person who worked with the Sierra Club to help save bald eagles.

5. **Get too frustrated!** Distilling your life into a compelling, informative one thousand word or one-page personal statement is a challenging task. Think of this as an opportunity, all-too-rare in life, to reflect calmly and creatively on who you are, who you want to be, and what you hope to do with your life.

Checklist for Evaluating your Personal Statement Drafts

A. Does your opening paragraph quickly engage the reader? Does it convey a distinct picture or impression of you as a person?

B. Is your guiding theme or idea clearly expressed? Is there a thread that runs through the essay, unifying it?

C. Are your principal intellectual interests and aims clearly elaborated? Is there evidence of your intellectual engagement and of the ideas that motivate you in your work or studies?

D. Are your more important commitments to community service, campus or off-campus organizations, or leadership roles effectively addressed?

E. Is the closing paragraph effective? Does it leave the reader with a sense of completeness? Does it suggest to the reader something of the spirit with which you are going forward in life?

*Adapted from the University of Maryland Office of Undergraduate Studies National Scholarships Office



PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY ALL INFORMATION

PERSONAL DATA

ABSW Chapter Affiliation: _____

(Include a copy of current NABSW membership online card)

Name: _____

Address (school): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Alternate Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

DEMOGRAPHICS

Ethnicity: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

EDUCATIONAL DATA *Please check classification for 2017-2018 academic school year:*

____ Freshman ____ Sophomore ____ Junior ____ Senior ____ MSW ____ Doctorate

Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Current College/University Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Major/Concentration: _____ Minor: _____ GPA: _____

College/University Attending in 2017-2018: _____



VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Work: _____

Telephone: _____ Hours volunteered: _____

Volunteer Work: _____

Telephone: _____ Hours volunteered: _____

Volunteer Work: _____

Telephone: _____ Hours volunteered: _____

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Organizations:

Positions Held:

I acknowledge that the information provided is accurate and truthful. I understand that if any information is found to be untruthful or incomplete it will disqualify my application.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____