



## The Macedonia Merit Scholarship

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*Annual Deadline: April 15*

*“It is only through labor and prayerful effort; by grim energy and absolute courage that we move on to better things.”*

*~ Theodore Roosevelt*

# THE MACEDONIA MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

## Program Overview

The Macedonia Merit Scholarship is sponsored by the Macedonia Scholarship Fund and is administered by the Fund in conjunction with the Macedonia Baptist Church Board of Trustees. This scholarship is available to outstanding high school seniors of African ancestry attending an accredited high school, and at the time of application have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or greater on a scale of 4.0. The amount designated will be awarded to recipients to be used toward the purchase of books and/or college tuition and fees. The Macedonia Merit Scholarship is a direct investment in the future of Capital District region youth seeking educational achievement, advancement and success.

## Eligibility Criteria

The scholarship is available to high school seniors of African ancestry who exemplify the following characteristics:

1. Academic Achievement - Maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or greater on a scale of 4.0.
2. Leadership - Serve in a leadership position(s) in school, religious organization, community and/or civic organizations.
3. Character - Serve as a positive role model for their peers through attitude and conduct.
4. Community Service - Exhibit admirable qualities of good citizenship through community and/or civic volunteerism.
5. Personal Poise - Able to articulate goals, abilities, shortcomings and rationale for pursuing a particular career path.

## Application Process

All applications must be postmarked no later than **April 15th**. The application must be signed by both the student and their parent or guardian. When all parts of the application are completed, submit as one package to: Macedonia Baptist Church, 26 Wilson Avenue, Albany, New York 12205 Attention: Scholarship Fund Committee. **Please Note:** Late or incomplete application packages **will not** be considered.

### **A complete application package consists of:**

1. A completed, dated and signed Macedonia Merit Scholarship application.
2. A sealed copy of an "Official High School" transcript.
3. Three recent letters of recommendation from the following:
  - an individual who is not related to the student and who is not affiliated with the academic institution the student currently attends (this can be a personal reference);
  - the student's Pastor or designee of the religious organization in which the student belongs; and
  - an Academic Advisor, School Counselor or School Administrator.
4. A copy of the student's college acceptance letter, (if not available at the time of the application, please bring the acceptance letter to the interview).
5. A typed, double-spaced biographical essay that addresses the questions listed on the application. Please answer **all** questions.
6. A copy of resume or biographical sketch.

**To keep all application information together, the student must place their name on all documents in the application package.**

**THE MACEDONIA MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**

**Application**

**(To Be Completed By Applicant)**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Field of Study \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Religious Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**BIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY**

Use a separate sheet of paper and provide a typed, double-spaced, biographical essay by answering the following questions. Please ensure that appropriate signatures are affixed where required, and that all information is submitted as one package. Absence of any portion of the required information will result in the ineligibility of the applicant. All information must be post-marked **no later than April 15th**.

1. Write about a personal achievement that you are proud of and describe it in detail.
2. Describe in detail a mistake you made and what you learned from it.

**CONDITION OF AWARD**

All applicants will receive written notification of the Scholarship Committee's decision no later than May 30th. The recipients will receive their one-time non-renewable Merit Scholarship the second Sunday in June at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

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I/We have reviewed the application and verified that all information is correct to the best of our knowledge. I/We understand and agree with the conditions herein. I/We, the undersigned, hereby grant permission to the Macedonia Baptist Church Scholarship Fund Committee to publish personal biographical information submitted in conjunction with annual reports filed and/or newspaper articles published. I/We also give permission for Macedonia to use any photographs that may be taken of me as it concerns Macedonia's annual scholarships/awards, the Scholarship Fund website page, and all published literature.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**THE MACEDONIA MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Eligibility Criteria**  
**(To Be Completed By School Official)**

The following Eligibility Verification form must be completed by a school official. The student must meet the following scholarship eligibility guidelines:

Student must:

1. Be enrolled in high school on the date of this application.
2. Be a high school senior of African ancestry, graduating at the end of the current school year.
3. Have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or greater on a scale of 4.0 at the time of application.
4. Demonstrate skills, abilities, character and aptitude for college matriculation.
5. Submit a sealed copy of an "Official High School" transcript.
6. Submit a copy of resume or biographical sketch.
7. Provide a copy of an acceptance letter from an accredited two-year or four-year college or university prior to the release of funds.
8. Provide three recent letters of recommendation from the following:
  - an individual who is not related to the student and who is not affiliated with the academic institution the student is currently attending (this can be a personal reference);
  - the student's Pastor or designee of the religious organization in which the student belongs; and
  - an Academic Advisor, School Counselor, or School Administrator.
9. Provide a typed, double-spaced, biographical essay answering the following questions:
  1. Write about a personal achievement that you are proud of and describe it in detail.
  2. Describe in detail a mistake you made and what you learned.

**THE MACEDONIA MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Eligibility Verification**  
**(To Be Completed By School Official)**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's GPA \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Title of School Official \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/Email Address of School Official \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Adaptability/Relationships**

(1) Rate the applicant's relationship with others by assigning the appropriate number in the corresponding boxes.

1 = Outstanding    2 = Average    3 = Below Average    4 = Insufficient Opportunity to Observe

Relationship with students	( )
Relationship with teachers	( )
Relationship with other educational professionals	( )
Community Involvement	( )

Additional Comment (s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(2) Please comment on the applicant's involvement in extra-curricular and community activities.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(3) Please comment on special skills and talents the applicant may possess.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(4) What is your opinion of the applicant's aptitude and potential to succeed in college?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of School Official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**All items must be completed, submitted in one package, and postmarked no later than April 15.**  
**A late or incomplete package will result in the ineligibility of the applicant.**