

Tampa Housing Authority (THA)

## 2023 Tampa Housing Authority's EFFORTS Scholarship Program

(Educational Funding For Our Residents to  
Succeed)



## Introduction

Thank you for your interest in Tampa Housing Authority's (THA) EFFORTS (Education Funding For Our Residents to Succeed) Scholarship Program. The EFFORTS Scholarship Program was established in 2022 as a method to continue to support our youth located in Public Housing, RAD, and Section 8 Housing.

The goal of the EFFORTS Scholarship Program is to encourage our young adults to pursue their educational dreams. The program is directed to high school seniors and undergraduate freshman students enrolled in the semester following the scholarship award. These students must exemplify leadership accomplishments, as well as have a high academic standing. The \$3,000 scholarship award will be provided to up to seven (7) undergraduate students based on a competition that will be administered by THA's Program and Property Services Department (PPS).

Once again, thank you for your interest in the THA EFFORTS Scholarship Program, and best wishes in your educational journey!

## Purpose

The purposes of the THA EFFORTS Scholarship Program are:

- To further assist the residents that Tampa Housing Authority serves.
- To encourage our young adults to advance their education and explore their career interests.
- To assist in the additional cost students may face as they enter college (e.g., books, materials, etc.).
- To expand the scholarships so that we can continue to award a minimum of seven (7) scholarships or more each year.

## Award

The Scholarship will be announced annually at the THA Annual Business Meeting in December and awarded shortly thereafter to deserving residents. A total of \$21,000 will be made in scholarships during the Program's Inaugural Year. \$3,000 will be awarded in scholarships per student. In subsequent years we hope to expand the scholarship so that each year we can continue to award a minimum of seven (7) scholarships or more.

THA will consider supporting EFFORTS recipients annually for up to four (4) years, provided the student meets the following conditions post-award.

1. The student enrolled and attended a post-secondary educational college or University immediately after the previous year's EFFORTS award.
2. Student maintained full-time enrollment.
3. Student maintained at minimum a 2.5 GPA.
4. Student provided a 500-word report on their education experience and their intentions to continue.

## Eligibility

To qualify, students must meet the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen or legal resident alien, and a current resident of the Tampa Housing Authority Public Housing/RAD or Assisted Housing Program.
- Complete the EFFORTS Scholarship Application Form.
- Be a high school senior or undergraduate freshman enrolled in the semester following the scholarship award (16 to 19 years old).
- Possess a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- 300 hours of community service.
- Submit a personally written 650-750-word essay expressing the value and importance of furthering education after high school.
- Produce one (1) or more letters from a community leader detailing the student's community involvement.

## Instructions

The complete application package must include the following:

- Signed Release Form
- Completed Biographical Questionnaire
- Current Resume – to include work or community hours
- One (1) or more letters from a community leader attesting to your community involvement
- Personally written 650-750-word essay expressing the value and importance of furthering your education after high school
- Official transcript from High School if a High School graduate or the latest report card if you're in High School
- Signed and dated application

All documents must be submitted in one (1) application package. All application documents must be originals, with original signatures, seals, and/or stamps. Application documents containing photocopied signatures and transcripts will not be considered for the THA EFFORTS Scholarship Program.

## Application Deadline Blurb

All application material must be postmarked no later than **November 1st** and delivered to Tampa Housing Authority at 5301 W Cypress Street Tampa, FL 33607 with attention to Stephanie Brown Gilmore. If emailed, it should be sent no later than November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, to [stephanie.brown@thaf1.com](mailto:stephanie.brown@thaf1.com) (CC: [maria.lerma-ramirez@thaf1.com](mailto:maria.lerma-ramirez@thaf1.com)).

### Selection Process

If selected, the student (THA Resident) will be contacted by the Tampa Housing Authority.

### Affirmation of Candidacy and Authorization for Release of Information and/or Photographs

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand that I am a candidate for the honor of THA's EFFORTS Scholarship Program and affirm my wish to be considered. In the event I am named a Scholar, permission is hereby given for the release of materials submitted by me for the review and use of the Tampa Housing Authority as deemed appropriate for purposes of THA's EFFORTS Scholarship Program.

I further consent to the release of my photographs that may be taken of me, by or for Tampa Housing Authority in connection with THA's EFFORTS Scholarship Program.

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Candidate's Biographical Questionnaire

The following questions are designed to collect information about your background, interests, and future plans. Your answers will only be used with the application for this scholarship program and will be disclosed only to qualified persons who must see them in the course of their duties.

### A. Biographical Information

Legal Name (please print in full): \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle

Sex: F  M

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip Code

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a resident of the following THA property  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Telephone Numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes  No

If not, are you a legal resident alien? Yes  No

Please provide you Alien Registration number/A-Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Education

1. Name of high school: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

G.P.A (on a 4.0 unweighted scale): \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Grade point average should match supporting documentation submitted with the application. Only applicants meeting the minimum GPA criteria of 3.0 will be considered for the THA EFFORTS Scholarship Program. Do not submit an application if you do not meet this criterion.*

### Parent/Guardian's Biographical Questionnaire

The following questions are designed to collect information about the parent/guardian's background. Your answers will only be used with the candidate's application for this scholarship program and will be disclosed only to qualified persons who must see them in the course of their duties.

#### A. Biographical Information

Legal Name (please print in full): \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle

Sex: F  M

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip Code

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a resident the following THA property

\_\_\_\_\_.

Telephone Numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Education

2. Name of school: \_\_\_\_\_

3. List any other schools that you attended in the last four (4) years. Please list the schools in order of attendance, with the one you most recently attended listed first.

| Name of School | Address | Dates of Attendance |
|----------------|---------|---------------------|
|                |         |                     |
|                |         |                     |
|                |         |                     |
|                |         |                     |

4. Names of colleges you are interested in attending and will be applying to/have been accepted to. If accepted, please make a note.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What course of study (declared major) will you pursue?

1<sup>st</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Other related discipline/unlisted major: \_\_\_\_\_

## C. Extracurricular Activities

List volunteer services and jobs you have held in the past four (4) years. The sum of hours must be 500.

| Activity | Dates | Title/Position | Awards | Hours |
|----------|-------|----------------|--------|-------|
|          |       |                |        |       |
|          |       |                |        |       |
|          |       |                |        |       |
|          |       |                |        |       |
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|          |       |                |        |       |
|          |       |                |        |       |
|          |       |                |        |       |
|          |       |                |        |       |

Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_



D. Essay

Submit a **TYPED** 650-750-word essay expressing the value and importance of furthering your education.

## Signature Page

Final Notice: Review this form to make sure you have answered all questions completely. Proofread, spell-check, and edit your responses for completeness.

## Certification

I \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I completed this application  
Name

and that all statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a false statement could eliminate me from consideration for this scholarship.

\_\_\_\_\_

Print your legal name

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed

## Application Checklist

|    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | I have read and understand the eligibility requirements and meet all eligibility criteria.  |  |
| 2. | I have read and completed the Candidate's Biographical Information section.   |  |
| 3. | I have included at least one (1) letter from a community leader detailing my community involvement.   |  |
| 4. | I have enclosed a 650-750-word essay expressing the value and importance of furthering your education.  |  |
| 5. | I have submitted a current resume.  |  |
| 6. | I have included my latest report card or official transcript from High School.  |  |
| 7. | I have completed 300 hours of community service and used the attached form to confirm hours.  |  |
| 8. | I have signed and dated the application.  |  |
| 9. | I understand the application package must be postmarked and delivered to Tampa Housing Authority at 5301 W Cypress Street Tampa, FL 33607 with attention to Stephanie Brown Gilmore no later than midnight <b>November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023</b> or emailed to <a href="mailto:stephanie.brown@thaf1.com">stephanie.brown@thaf1.com</a> (CC: <a href="mailto:maria.lerma-ramirez@thaf1.com">maria.lerma-ramirez@thaf1.com</a> ) no later than midnight <b>November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023</b> for consideration for the THA EFFORTS Scholarship Program. |  |

