 

AWARD OVERVIEW

Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship
2020-2021

Deadline: March 16, 2020

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) Board of Commissioners established the HACA Resident Scholarship in 2001 for the benefit of HACA Public Housing Residents and Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) participants who plan to attend (or already attending) an institution of higher education. The Scholarship serves as a vehicle of hope to individuals who have a desire to further their education but lack the adequate financial means to accomplish this goal. The Scholarship is designed to inspire these individuals to find meaningful careers, earn a living wage, and progress toward becoming economically self-sufficient. Based on support for the program, the scholarship was rebranded as the Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship in 2014. Scholarships are available on a competitive basis, and the award amount varies from year to year, depending on the availability of funds. Scholarship amounts may also differ based on intended enrollment in a two-year, four-year, or technical training/certification program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**1.** Be a HACA resident or Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) participant in good standing, or a recipient of the 2019 Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship who has left HACA’s housing programs in good standing (i.e. the child of a current HACA resident who has moved out of the unit to attend an institution of higher education or training, and was a recipient of the most recent year’s scholarship).

**2.** Be a graduating high school senior with a GPA of 2.0 or better, or already have a high school diploma/GED.

**3.** Be currently attending or planning to attend a college, university, technical school, or other post-secondary institution. If you are currently attending or have previously attended any post-secondary institution, you must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater to be eligible for the scholarship.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete a HACA Scholarship Application Form.
* Do not leave any blank lines.
* Make sure you have entered information on all lines.

If the statement does not apply to you, write “N/A” on the line.

*\*\*Incomplete applications will not be considered.\*\**

1. Submit your **most recent, official** high school transcript, college transcript, and/or copy of your GED.
2. Submit **two** letters of recommendation (from non-family members only).
	* Letters of Recommendation must be signed, and have current contact information of the person who wrote the letter.
3. Submit a 1-2 page, double-spaced, 12-font, **typed essay** in your own words telling of your:
	* Educational goals
	* Major/area of concentration
	* School attending/plan to attend
	* How receiving the HACA Austin Pathways Scholarship will help you now and in the future.
4. Include one (1) recent photo. **This is very important for the awards ceremony!**
5. You are strongly encouraged to submit your transcript, essay, photo, and recommendation letters attached to your application (not submit separately). This ensures that the complete package is received together and decreases the likelihood that components of the application may be misplaced or lost. **However, if you are submitting your application electronically (via email), your official transcript must be dropped off to your Community Development staff person (ROSS Specialist, FSS Coordinator, Jobs Plus Career Coach, etc.) or Housing Choice Voucher FSS Coordinator before the award deadline.**
	* Transcripts must be official; in a sealed envelope, or a link to a secure site. Unofficial or copied transcripts will not be accepted.
	* If you have previously attended a higher education institution, you must submit your most recent transcripts.
6. Complete the scholarship application form. Essay and letters of recommendation are required.
7. Submit your most recent, official, college transcript showing most current Grade Point Average (GPA).
8. Submit one (1) recent headshot photo.

**2019-2020 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Original, completed application must be received or postmarked by the deadline of **March 16, 2020**. The application must be legible. Please write neatly. Illegible applications will not be considered.

2. The application may be hand delivered to the HACA front desk attendant, mailed to the address listed on the application, or emailed to Barbara Jackson, Program Director at barbaraj@hacanet.org. Official transcripts must be received by the March 16 deadline.

* Should you choose to submit your application via email, please refer to previous section regarding the hand-delivery of an official transcript.

**\*Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

**SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

1. Scholarship funds may only be used to cover unmet student needs directly related to tuition, student fees, books, and school supplies. In some cases, this may include technology, such as a computer, but will be determined by HACA on a case–by-case basis. **ALL UNUSED FUNDS SHALL BE RETURNED TO HACA AND NOT ISSUED TO THE STUDENT.**

2. Student must keep the Scholarship Program Director informed of any changes in schools, enrollment status, and any special billing requirements.

 

This page is purposely blank Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship
2020-2021 Application - Deadline: March 16, 2020

***DOUBLE CHECK YOUR APPLICATION
PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY LINES BLANK!***

 **APPLICANT’S NAME**: Last Name First Name MI

**LOCAL ADDRESS**: Number & Street City State ZIP Code

**HACA HOH CLIENT ID NUMBER**: Head of Household **DATE OF BIRTH:** Click to enter a date.

**Last 4 digits of S.S. #:** Last 4 Digits SSN

**PHONE NUMBER:** Phone Number **EMAIL:** Email Address

 **GENDER (check one): MALE** **[ ]  FEMALE** **[ ]**

 **DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN (check one): PUBLIC HOUSING** **[ ]  SEC. 8** **[ ]**

EDUCATION HISTORY

**Highest Grade Completed:** Click to enter text. **HS Diploma:** Choose Yes or No **GED/HSE Recipient:** Choose Yes or No

**Name of High School CURRENTLY attending:** Click to enter text.

Not in High School? If not, did you graduate? If so, what year? Year If not, what month/year do you graduate? Month/Year

**Current CUMULATIVE HS GPA**: HS GPA or **Current CUMULATIVE COLLEGE GPA:** College GPA

**FOR GED/HSE RECIPIENTS:** What month and year did you receive your GED or High School Equivalency? Month/Year No transcript? Include a copy of your GED Certificate.

**Check One:** Never Attended College[ ]  Some College Previously [ ]  Attending College Now [ ]
 **(if you are attending college now, please list the name and address of college along with your student ID Number)**

Click here to enter text.

**COLLEGES ATTENDED / DATES ATTENDED/ HOURS COMPLETED / DEGREES RECEIVED:**

Click here to enter text.

2020-2021 EDUCATIONAL PLANS

WHAT COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, VOCATIONAL, OR POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN 2020-2021? (INCLUDE CITY & STATE):

Click here to enter text.

**What is your 2020-2021 ENROLLMENT STATUS:** (check one)
 Do you: PLAN TO APPLY [ ]
 Have you: APPLIED BUT NOT YET ACCEPTED [ ]
 Have you: APPLIED AND WAS ACCEPTED [ ]

**FALL 2020:** Will you be a FULL-TIME STUDENT? Yes [ ]  No [ ]
 Will you be a PART-TIME STUDENT? Yes [ ]  No [ ]

**SPRING 2021:** Will you be aFULL-TIME STUDENT? Yes [ ]  No [ ]
 Will you be a PART-TIME STUDENT? Yes [ ]  No [ ]

**SUMMER 2021:** Will you be a FULL-TIME STUDENT? Yes [ ]  No [ ]
 Will you be a PART-TIME STUDENT? Yes [ ]  No [ ]

**ANTICIPATED MAJOR OR VOCATIONAL GOAL:** Click here to enter text. **LENGTH OF PROGRAM (2 YEARS / 4 YEARS, ETC.):** Click here to enter text.

**ESTIMATED COST FOR ENTIRE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR** (INCLUDE TUITION, STUDENT FEES, BOOKS,

AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES ONLY) Click here to enter text.

 **IF AWARDED, WILL YOU NEED YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED TO JUST ONE SEMEMSTER, OR SPLIT**

**ACROSS MULTIPLE SEMEMSTERS?** Choose Yes or No **If yes, split how?** Click here to enter text.

HONORS, AWARDS, & COMMUNITY/SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

PLEASE LIST HONORS OR AWARDS RECEIVED AND COMMUNITY / SCHOOL ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU HAVE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED WITHIN THE PAST 4 YEARS (ATTACH SHEET IF NEEDED).

Click here to enter text.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PLEASE LIST ALL GRANTS OR OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS (INCLUDING AMOUNTS) THAT YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR OR WILL BE RECEIVING FOR THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR (ATTACH SHEET IF NEEDED). IF YOU HAVE APPLIED BUT ARE UNSURE OF THE AWARDS, PLEASE STATE:

Click here to enter text.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

PLEASE **ATTACH TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** FROM NON-FAMILY MEMBERS. LIST THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THESE PEOPLE BELOW. PLEASE INCLUDE THEIR NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL, PHONE NUMBER, RELATIONSHIP TO YOU, AND LENGTH OF TIME YOU HAVE KNOWN THEM.

1. Click here to enter text.

2. Click here to enter text.

ESSAY

SUBMIT A 1-2 page, double-spaced, 12 font typed essay explaining in your own words your education intentions, the name of your major/area of concentration, the name of the school you’re attending, and tell how receiving the HACA Austin Pathways Scholarship will help you now and in the future. IF YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER, PLEASE INCLUDE THEM IN YOUR ESSAY.

PHOTO

Please include a photo (headshot) of yourself with your application.

CERTIFICATION: (please print and sign)

BY MY SIGNATURE, I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

* THE INFORMATION I HAVE GIVEN IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.
* TO MAINTAIN SATISFACTORY EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.
* TO KEEP HACA INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES IN SCHOOLS OR ENROLLMENT STATUS.
* TO PROVIDE, OR RESPOND TO HACA REQUESTS FOR PERIODIC UPDATES ON ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR THE DURATION OF MY RECEIPT OF HACA RESIDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS.
* TO CONSENT TO THE USE OF MY PROFILE, PROGRESS, AND TESTIMONIAL, BY HACA AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES, FOR MARKETING AND FUNDRAISING PURPOSES.
* TO AUTHORIZE THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID, OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS, AND/OR THE OFFICE OF ACADEMICS TO RELEASE MY GRADES AND PERTINENT INFORMATION TO HACA.

TO AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF MY CONTACT INFORMATION TO AUSTIN PATHWAYS, IN ORDER FOR SUPPORTIVE FOLLOW UP AND SURVEYS TO BE CONDUCTED.

Print Name: Print Name

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: Date



**APPLICATION CHECKLIST: Did you remember to include the following information?**

 [ ]  Completed application **(no blank lines)**

[ ]  Most recent official high school transcript, official college transcript, and/or copy of GED.

 [ ]  Two letters of recommendation from non-family members.

 [ ]  TYPED essay explaining your reasons for applying for this scholarship

 [ ]  RECENT PHOTO

 [ ]  Name and address of school currently/planning to attend

 [ ]  HOH client ID # and last 4-digits of Social Security Number (on page 5)

[ ]  Signed Certification page (page 8)

**Timeline:** **Friday, March 16, 2020** – Applications due

 **Friday, May 22, 2020** – Decision letters mailed with Acceptance Agreements

 **Wednesday, June 10, 2020** – Return Signed Acceptance Agreements Deadline

 **TBD:** Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship Award Ceremony (usually in July)

 **Beginning to Mid-August 2020**: Scholarship checks mailed to schools