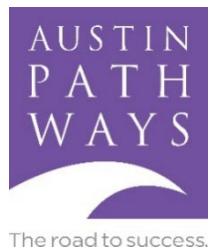




Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship 2026-2027 AWARD OVERVIEW

Deadline: March 20, 2026



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 (now PBRA 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 2025 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.

2. Submit your most recent, official high school transcript, college transcript, and/or copy of your GED.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. Include one (1) recent photo. **This is very important for the awards ceremony!**

6. Please 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. If you are submitting your application via email, your official transcript must be dropped off to your Austin Pathways staff person (Family Opportunity Specialist or FSS Coach, etc.) or Housing Choice Voucher FSS Coordinator before the award deadline or emailed through a link from a secure site.

- Transcripts must be official; in a sealed envelope, or sent through 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.

7. Complete the scholarship application form. Essay and letters of recommendation are required.

8. Submit your most recent, official, college transcript showing most current Grade Point Average (GPA).

9. Submit one (1) recent headshot photo.

2026-2027 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Original, completed application must be received or postmarked by the deadline of **March 20, 2026**. The application must be legible. Please type or write neatly. Illegible applications will not be considered.

2. The application may be hand delivered to the HACA front desk attendant or mailed to:

HACA Scholarships
1124 S. IH 35
Austin, TX 78704

or emailed to apscholarship@hacanet.org Official transcripts must be received by the March 20, 2026 deadline.

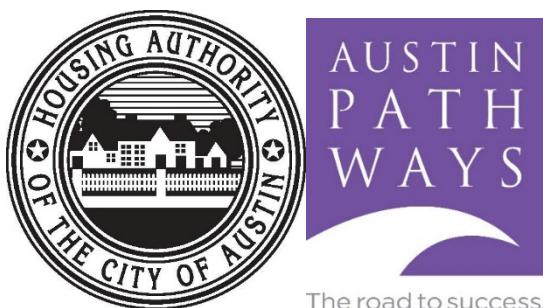
- Should you choose to submit your application via email, please refer to previous section regarding the delivery of an official transcript.

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.

This 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 Manager informed of any changes in schools, enrollment status, and any special billing requirements.



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

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Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship

2026-2027 Application - Deadline: March 20, 2026

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

APPLICANT'S NAME:

LOCAL ADDRESS:

HACA HOH CLIENT ID NUMBER:

DATE OF BIRTH:

Last 4 digits of S.S. #:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

GENDER (check one): **MALE**

FEMALE

DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN (check one): **PBRA/PUBLIC HOUSING**

SEC. 8

EDUCATION HISTORY

Highest Grade Completed:

HS Diploma:

GED/HSE Recipient:

Name of High School CURRENTLY attending:

Not in High School? If not, did you graduate? If so, what year?

If not, what month/year do you graduate?

Current CUMULATIVE HS GPA:

or Current CUMULATIVE COLLEGE GPA:

FOR GED/HSE RECIPIENTS: What month and year did you receive your GED or High School Equivalency? 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

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

How would the HACA Resident Scholarship help you achieve your goals?

What is your favorite quote?

2026-2027 EDUCATIONAL PLANS

WHAT COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, VOCATIONAL, OR POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN 2026-2027? (INCLUDE CITY & STATE):

What is your 2026-2027 ENROLLMENT STATUS: (check one)

Do you: PLAN TO APPLY
Have you: APPLIED BUT NOT YET ACCEPTED
Have you: APPLIED AND WAS ACCEPTED

FALL 2026: Will you be a FULL-TIME STUDENT? Yes No
Will you be a PART-TIME STUDENT? Yes No

SPRING 2027: Will you be a FULL-TIME STUDENT? Yes No
Will you be a PART-TIME STUDENT? Yes No

SUMMER 2027: Will you be a FULL-TIME STUDENT? Yes No
Will you be a PART-TIME STUDENT? Yes No

ANTICIPATED MAJOR OR VOCATIONAL GOAL:

LENGTH OF PROGRAM (2 YEARS / 4 YEARS, ETC.):

ESTIMATED COST FOR ENTIRE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR (INCLUDE TUITION, STUDENT FEES, BOOKS, AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES ONLY)

IF AWARDED, WILL YOU NEED YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED TO JUST ONE SEMESTER, OR SPLIT ACROSS MULTIPLE SEMESTERS?

If yes, split how?

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).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PLEASE LIST ALL GRANTS OR OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS (INCLUDING AMOUNTS) THAT YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR OR WILL BE RECEIVING FOR THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR (ATTACH SHEET IF NEEDED). IF YOU HAVE APPLIED BUT ARE UNSURE OF THE AWARDS, PLEASE STATE:

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.
- 2.

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 are or will attend, and tell how receiving the HACA Austin Pathways Resident 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.

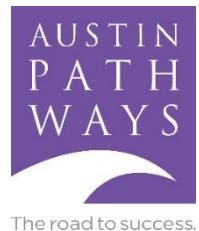
PHOTO

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, FOR SUPPORTIVE FOLLOW UP AND SURVEYS TO BE CONDUCTED.



Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

2026-2027 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Original, completed application must be received or postmarked by the deadline of **March 20, 2026**. 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 page 3 of this application, or emailed to apscholarship@hacanet.org. Official transcripts must be received by the March 20 deadline. Should you choose to submit your application via email, please refer to *Application Instructions* regarding the delivery of an official transcript

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 and student ID number (bottom of page 5)

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

Signed Certification page (on page 8)

TIMELINE:

Wednesday, March 20, 2026 – *Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship* Applications due

Friday, May 31, 2026 – Decision letters mailed with Acceptance Agreements

Thursday, June 15, 2026 – Return Signed Acceptance Agreements Deadline

Friday, July 24, 2026: Austin Pathways HACA Resident Scholarship Award Ceremony (usually in July)

August 2026: Scholarship checks mailed to schools

Application Deadline: March 20, 2026