

## THE HACC ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

### **INFORMATION**

The Housing Authority of Champaign County Enrichment Foundation (HACCEF) in conjunction with the Housing Authority of Champaign County (HACC) has established the Academic Excellence Award to remunerate scholarships to 2 graduating high school seniors, who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in academic achievement, extracurricular activities, volunteerism and public service. All graduating high school seniors, receiving assistance through the Moving to Work (MTW) Housing Choice Voucher Program, planning to attend a 4 - year college/university and meeting the eligibility criteria may submit an application.

The purpose of the Academic Excellence Award is to provide financial assistance to young program participants, highlight and reward their commitment to academic achievement, and encourage social responsibility. This scholarship is awarded without regard to race, national origin, or religion. The scholarship can be applied toward tuition, fees, books, and other class material. Payment will be made directly to the recipient's selected institution on their behalf. The recipient will be recognized publicly in print, photographs, digital media and agree that HACCEF and/or HACC may use such photographs, digital media, and/or video with or without their name for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content.

The Academic Excellence Award is dependent on the availability of funds and is subject to change in subsequent years. This year, HACCEF has elected to reward a one-time **\$1000 scholarship** to 2 deserving graduating high school seniors. Confirmation of the student's enrollment at the 4-year institution must be provided even if the institution has not officially billed the student for classes. The student must be selected as a recipient by a selection committee chosen by HACC. Recipients may attend any accredited 4-year college or university.

**The deadline for application is August 7, 2020.**

### **ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

HACCEF's goal is to encourage and assist students in fulfilling their educational endeavors. The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility and to evaluate applications:

1. Any HACC program participant, who is a graduating high school senior and has been receiving assistance from the MTW Housing Choice Voucher Program for at least 12 months, is eligible to apply for the Academic Excellence Award.
2. Applicant's household must be in good standing with HACC for 12 consecutive months prior to the application date.
3. All applicants who are awarded a scholarship must submit proof of enrollment or a billing statement.

## **CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

The following factors will be considered in the evaluation of each application:

**1. Grades, Course Work, and Test Scores-**

The applicant must have a cumulative grade point average of "C" or better. Proof is required.

**2. Personal Incentive, Volunteerism, and Extracurricular Activities-**

The applicant should list his/her extracurricular school activities, community involvement, and work experience on the application.

**3. Personal Essay-**

The essay should describe the student's background, future plans, career goals, and why they would like to be considered for the scholarship award. Also include what self-sufficiency means to you, and how the scholarship will help you financially.

**The personal essay plays a critical role in helping the screening committee select finalists for the selection process. Applicants are encouraged to spend an adequate amount of time and effort preparing their essays.**

**4. Financial Need-**

Basic information about the family's income is required. Financial need may be determined from income information submitted to the Housing Choice Voucher Program from the most recent certification on file.

**5. Personal Interview-**

A Selection Committee chosen by HACC will interview finalists. Interviews may occur in person, by phone, or by videoconferencing.

**6. Personal Reference/Recommendation Letter-**

This half-page letter can be from anyone who can verify that you are of sound character and have good personal qualities.

## **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS**

The deadline for application and all related material is **August 7, 2020** . The applicants can submit the information electronically, by mail, or in the HACC dropbox.

The outside of the envelopes should be marked "Scholarship Application." Applications may be mailed to:

### **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**HACC**

**2008 N. MARKET STREET**

**CHAMPAIGN, IL 61822**

**For more information: contact Candace Godbolt 217-378-7100 ext. 5059 or  
email: [candaceg@hacc.net](mailto:candaceg@hacc.net)**

---

## THE HACC ENRICHMENT FOUNDATION ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

### **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:** (Please print using blue or black ink).

The items that follow are designed to collect information about your background, interests, and plans. Your response will be used only in connection with your application for this program and to develop a brief biographical sketch if you are selected to receive a scholarship.

**All areas must be complete or your application may not be considered.**

Student's Name (first, last) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Household Name (first, last) \_\_\_\_\_

### **SCHOLASTIC INFORMATION:**

College or university you plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Have you applied? Yes/No Been Accepted? Yes/No

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your cumulative grade point average? \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a copy of your transcripts.

Please attach your personal reference/recommendation letter.

Please attach proof of college or university acceptance/enrollment.

List your school activities (publications, debating, dramatics, music, art, student government, clubs, sports, etc.):

List your community volunteer activities (church work, outreach programs, drug hotlines, hospital work, etc.):

**A PERSONAL ESSAY** is to be printed clearly or typed on a separate sheet and attached to this application. This statement is heavily weighted in the evaluation of your application; therefore, give special attention to its organization, content, and structure.

**I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

**Print Applicant Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Questions? Email: [candaceg@hacc.net](mailto:candaceg@hacc.net)**