

# **NAACP Seacoast Branch Community Scholarship Application**

## **Introduction:**

The **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)** has a long history of advocating and promoting the educational advancement of students who have historically been under-represented in post-secondary education. The NAACP Seacoast Branch supports this tradition locally by awarding scholarships to deserving students who are residents of the seacoast region of New Hampshire and Maine. Eligible communities include Strafford and Rockingham Counties in NH and York County, ME.

Local individuals, organizations, and businesses contribute money to the scholarship fund because they recognize the importance of investing in the post-secondary education of the seacoast's youth. This investment is important not only for academic and financial reasons, but also for the social, cultural, and political growth afforded a region by having a well-educated citizenry.

## **Purpose of scholarship**

**The purpose of the scholarship is threefold:**

### **1. Encourage academic success:**

Academic success is broadly defined but is commonly understood to imply achieving academic success in a program of study selected by the student and persistence towards graduation. Academic success develops the skills and competencies that make possible success in the workplace and community. Students must be in good academic standing at their current institution to receive a scholarship.

### **2. Encourage community activism:**

The quality of life for members of a community is enhanced by active participation in the varied aspects of the community. Developing and encouraging awareness and engagement in community issues during the young adult years must be actively encouraged and supported by the community.

**3. Provide financial support to eligible students:** Increases in the cost of education at two- and four-year institutions have, over the past decade, exceeded any increases to family income. This dynamic makes financing higher education challenging for most families and individuals. This scholarship is not intended to finance an education, but to make a small contribution to the many costs a student will incur during one year in college.

## **Who is eligible to apply?**

Students who intend to enroll, or are currently enrolled, in a 2-year college, 4-year college, technical or trade school are eligible to apply for these scholarships. The scholarships are awarded for the upcoming academic year. Current high school seniors or currently enrolled college students should apply for this scholarship.

**Scholarship Value**

The NAACP Seacoast branch will award multiple scholarships with a value of \$1500 each.

**How can I apply?**

Students may apply by submitting the required documents to the NAACP Seacoast Scholarship Committee at the email address listed below. Required documents include the following:

1. Scholarship application
2. Recommendation (one is required, two are recommended) from an individual who can comment on your abilities, accomplishments and interests relative to the purposes of this scholarship as stated above.
3. Essay OR skill portfolio

Materials are available online at <http://www.seacoastnaacp.com/>. The deadline for submitting the scholarship application and all supporting scholarship materials must be received by May 1.

Letters awarding the scholarships will be mailed by May 15. All scholarship materials should be emailed to the following address. Please include your name and email address on all documents, materials, and recommendations.

[seacoastnhnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:seacoastnhnaacp@gmail.com)

## NAACP Seacoast Branch Community Scholarship Application

### Student Information

1. Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI

2. Race/ethnicity (select all that apply):

- Hispanic
- Native American/Alaska native
- African American/Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Biracial/Multiracial
- White, not of hispanic origin
- Other

3. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Street address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

7. High school(s) attended: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Dates of attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Post-secondary school(s) attended (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

10. If a high school senior, what post-secondary schools are you applying to for the upcoming academic year:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. If a post-secondary student, what school will you be enrolled in for the upcoming academic year:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Family Information

1. Parent(s)/ guardian(s)

a. Primary guardian's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Secondary guardian's full name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission Materials**

Students applying for this scholarship must demonstrate their abilities in a way that they feel is relevant to the cause. Only one of the following options is required to complete this application.

**OPTION 1- Essay**

On a separate document write an essay answering one of the questions below. Please put your name and email address in the header of each page. Essays should be 500-750 words long, double spaced, and submitted in either PDF or DOCX format.

- 1) Describe how volunteer or community service has shaped who you are today and what community/volunteer service has taught you.
  
- 2) Describe who you are, what is important to you, and any challenges or obstacles you have dealt with and overcome in life. How will this help you succeed in your continued education?

**OPTION 2- Skill portfolio**

Please submit a portfolio of 3-5 works that have been completed during the current academic school year. Eligible works are defined as but not limited to: paintings, sculptures, dramatic monologues, interpretive dances, creative writings, musical performances, etc. Please attach your works to the email with this application in either photo (JPEG), video (MP4), or PDF form.

**Letter(s) of Recommendation**

One letter of recommendation is required (two letters are recommended) and must be submitted by May 15. Your reference can be either an educational or general reference. References should be written by an adult who knows you well but is not a relative, such as an employer, coach, advisor, teacher, etc. Letter writers should email their letters independently of the student’s application.

- 1) Letter writer (required) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Letter writer (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature Section**

I have completed this application accurately and thoroughly. The information contained in this application is the product of my work and thought.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

All scholarship materials should be emailed to the following address. Please include your name and email address on all documents, materials, and recommendations.

seacoastnhnaacp@gmail.com