



BRIEF OVERVIEW

Bethany Baptist Church, S.B.C. of Houston annually presents a minimum scholarship award of \$250 (maximum of \$2,000) to qualifying student-members pursuing higher education (college, university, or vocational school) through Bethany Scholarship Fund Award (BSFA). The BSFA was created and has been managed by the College Ministry Team since 1997.

All hopeful applicants must submit a completed scholarship application with all required materials by the published deadline. An ad hoc Scholarship Committee facilitates the screening and interview phases and rates the applicant to determine the scholarship award amount. Email correspondence will be sent to inform applicants of their status throughout the entire process. Award letters are presented the 2nd Sunday in June.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

THE APPLICANT MUST:

- Be a member of Bethany Baptist Church, S.B.C. of Houston and an active participant in, at least, two (2) church ministries, auxiliaries, or committees. (CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION WILL BE VERIFIED.)
- Submit enrollment documentation and be in good standing each year they desire to be considered. (ENROLLMENT DOCUMENTATION INCLUDES OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS, FEE RECEIPTS, ETC.)
- Submit a picture with each application. (PICTURE MAY BE DISPLAYED DURING WORSHIP SERVICE ON GRADUATION SUNDAY.)
- (First-time applicants) must supply a typed, double-spaced 250-word essay. (SEE PAGE 2 FOR ESSAY TOPICS.)
- Must return the application and other required materials by the published deadline: **APRIL 4th**.
- Must be interviewed by the ad hoc Scholarship Committee. (AN INTERVIEW IS SCHEDULED ONCE AN APPLICANT HAS RETURNED THE COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION BY THE PUBLISHED DEADLINE.)

UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants pursuing higher education away from home must be active with a local church body or service organization. A letter of acknowledgement from the church or organization should be submitted with the scholarship application.
- Undergraduate applicants must be enrolled in full-time course studies; a minimum of twelve (12) semester credit hours.
- Graduate applicants will be processed on an individual basis.



ACCESS TO THE APPLICATION

Applicants may retrieve the BSFA application from the church website at www.bethany1925.com every March.

ESSAY TOPICS

FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS MUST CHOOSE ONE TOPIC AND SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY WITH THE APPLICATION.

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| 1 | Sometimes you do not get exactly what you want. Sometimes God says no. What is your response, and why? | 3 | What are two negative life experiences that have helped you learn to trust the Lord Jesus Christ above all else? |
| 2 | Mentors are individuals that play a major part in our development. Who is someone you look up to and how have they impacted your life for Christ? | 4 | You will experience adversity. How have you chosen to respond, and why? |

2024 DEADLINE

THE APPLICATION AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS
ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE:

APRIL 4, 2024

RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

	ELECTRONIC	U.S. MAIL
<u>APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO:</u>	info@bethany1925.com	Attn: College Ministry Team Bethany Baptist Church, S.B.C. 7304 Homestead Road Houston, TX 77028

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A checklist is included in the BSFA application packet to help applicants keep track of all required documents.

After an applicant applies all communication regarding its status will be sent directly to the applicant through the email address provided by the applicant.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions concerning the application, requirements, scholarship process, and/or for accommodations contact a College Ministry Team representative by emailing us at info@bethany1925.com or calling our church office at 713-633-4831. Please allow 24-48 hours for follow-up.



TIP SHEET

MY CHECKLIST

- ☐ 1. COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM
- ☐ 2. GRADUATION PICTURE FOR FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS ONLY
- ☐ 3. PROOF OF ENROLLMENT (official high school transcript, college transcript, fee receipt)
- ☐ 4. 250-WORD ESSAY (First-time applicants only)
- ☐ 5. LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (for applicants pursuing studies away from home)

COLLEGE PREP TIPS

TRY COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOL

There are many ways to try and even earn college credits in high school – dual credit, dual enrollment, [AP](#), [IB](#). Make sure you understand the difference and how those credits will help you toward your desired degree program.

COMPARE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Tools like [College Scorecard](#) and [Compare College TX](#) help you compare colleges based on things like cost and graduation rate. They'll help you find affordable options and make sure you invest wisely. Visit texasoncourse.org

Tour a few university and college campuses at your earliest convenience during week to get a feel of the campus culture.

You have worked for years to have the grades and extracurriculars for your top choice school. Make sure your scores are as awesome as you are with preparation materials.

APPLY TO YOUR CHOICE OF SCHOOLS applytexas.org

Apply to all Texas two- and four-year public, and some private, schools with this streamlined application.

Date _____

CHECK ONE.

- ☐ **New Applicant.** Student-members who have never been awarded are considered new applicants. I understand I must complete all sections of the scholarship application.
- ☐ **Return Applicant.** Student-members who have completed the scholarship process and been awarded in a previous year are considered return applicants. I understand I must complete the following sections of the application: I, II, IV, V, VI, and VII. I must also provide a copy of my most recent semester grades.

PERSONAL INFORMATION (PRINT ONLY)

Section I

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	SUFFIX (Sr., Jr., II, III, etc.)
BIRTH DATE		EMAIL ADDRESS	
ADDRESS		APT	
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	

Parents/Guardians

NAME OF FATHER/GUARDIAN	NAME OF MOTHER/GUARDIAN
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ACADEMIC INFORMATION (PRINT ONLY)

Section II

CURRENT SCHOOL/COLLEGE	GRADUATION DATE
RANK	GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Honors/Awards

Please list at least two (2) honors/awards you have received and their dates below.

HONOR/AWARD	DATE RECEIVED
HONOR/AWARD	DATE RECEIVED

Section III

SCHOOL YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

CITY/STATE

(ANTICIPATED) MAJOR

(ANTICIPATED) MINOR

Short Answer (Please answer below in complete sentences.)

Why have you chosen to attend this school?

Section IV

Financial Awards

Please list below all financial awards and assistance you have received to aid in your pursuit of higher education.

NAME OF FINANCIAL AWARD	PROVIDED BY	AMOUNT
NAME OF FINANCIAL AWARD	PROVIDED BY	AMOUNT
NAME OF FINANCIAL AWARD	PROVIDED BY	AMOUNT
NAME OF FINANCIAL AWARD	PROVIDED BY	AMOUNT

Section V**Short Answer (Please answer below in complete sentences.)**

If all your school expenses were taken care of, and in addition, you were awarded the Bethany Scholarship, would you give your portion of the award to help someone else attend school also?
Why, or why not?

Section VI**Short Answer (Please answer below in complete sentences.)**

What are your academic goals and aspirations?

Section VII**Short Answer (Please answer below in complete sentences.)**

In the space provided below, please give your profession of faith.

CERTIFICATION

Read the following statements carefully and indicate your understanding and acceptance by signing your name into the space provided.

1. I certify that all information provided by me in connection with my application, whether on this document or not, is true and complete, and I understand that any misstatement, falsification, or omission of information may be grounds for refusal of award.
2. I authorize any persons or organization referenced in this application to give you all information concerning my education, awards, and any other information they might have, personal or otherwise, regarding any of the subjects covered by this application, and I release all such parties from all liability from any damages which may result from furnishing such information to you.

Your signature indicates your application is complete and ready to be evaluated by the ad hoc Scholarship Committee. Do not include your signature until you have completed all sections of the application.

SIGNATURE

DATE