Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
Berkeley Bay Area Alumnae
Scholarship Packet

Introduction
The Berkeley Bay Area Alumnae Chapter (BBAAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, is a private community service sorority of African American, college educated women. BBAAC is offering college scholarships to high school seniors of African/African American descent in Alameda County.  Although the emphasis is placed  on recipients attending four-year institutions, applications will be accepted from students who plan to attend a community college with the intention to transfer to a four-year institution. The amount of the award will vary according to available funding.  The award is intended to supplement other financial resources.

Scholarship Award Amount
Awards may range according to available funds and will typically be from $500-$3,000.

Applicant Criteria
Scholarships will be awarded to applicants that meet the following criteria:

1. **All eligible applicants are college-bound high school seniors of <u>African/African American descent</u> attending a high school in Alameda County, California.**

2. Eligible applicants must submit a full and complete scholarship packet with the required elements (i.e. recommendation letters and a grade report verification letter for those using an unofficial grade report or unable to submit an official transcript) on <u>letterhead</u> as stipulated in the Scholarship Application Packet Checklist. Electronic submissions are preferable.  Submission of materials in portions is allowed, yet aid us as much as possible with appropriate identification and labeling to support our best effort to pull all portions together for a complete scholarship packet.

3. The grade point average (GPA) minimum requirement is cumulative (all years of high school), un-weighted*, and must be 3.0 (on a four point scale) or higher. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to the GPA minimum.  Electronic submissions are preferable.

4. Eligible applicants must include the date of ACT or SAT exams taken or planned on the application. If test scores are available, include the test score and/or a copy of the score report.  There are no test score minimums.  Electronic submissions are preferable.

5. Electronic submissions are preferable and can be submitted online dragging files into the online of application and/or sent via email to scholarship@bbaacdst.org.

6. Scholarship applicants must be able to participate in a Zoom remote interview in March or early April. Exceptions or alternatives may be allowed on a case by case basis.

   *A grade point average that is un-weighted <u>does not</u> include the additional grade points of "weighted" courses such as: Honors (H), Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college level (CL) courses.

Scholarship Application Packet Requirements & Checklist

**Note: All application materials may be electronic, on letterhead, and submitted electronically from an email address of the school or service entity.**

1. A completed application which includes the applicant <u>confirming their eligibility of the scholarship</u> and agreeing to be contacted as part of the scholarship evaluation and/or awarding process;
2. One letter of recommendation from a high school counselor or administrator on **official letterhead**;
3. One letter of recommendation from a teacher on **official letterhead**;
4. One letter of recommendation verifying your service to your community or school on **official letterhead**;
5. An official transcript OR an unofficial grade report accompanied by a letter on letterhead from a school official verifying the grade report to be true;
6. An essay of a **minimum of 500 words**, but under 1,500 words, stating the applicants' education and career goals;
7. All elements of the scholarship application (Items 1-6 of this list) submitted online or via postal mail and postmarked by the **March 8th, 2024 deadline**.
8. The applicant's ability to participate in Zoom remote interview to be determined in March or early April.  If an agreeable time to conduct the interview cannot be determined, rare exceptions or alternatives may be allowed on a case by case basis.
9. **It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure the scholarship application (Items 1-6 of this list) is complete and submitted by the deadline.**  Questions are welcome via email to [scholarship@bbaacdst.org](mailto:scholarship@bbaacdst.org) .

Application Evaluation

Eligible candidates for scholarship consideration are those that submit a <u>complete application</u>. More weight in the review process will be given to applicants with:

- Strong or higher GPA's,
- Challenging courses or course load at their high school,
- Detailed, well-composed essays,
- Strong letters of recommendation, and
- Applicants that can provide helpful explanations or contextual information of their circumstances**.

**Examples of circumstances include but are not limited to a poor grades, and upward grade trend, illness that occurred in high school that effected school performance, changing schools that effected course choice or school performance, or other personal issues the applicant <u>feels comfortable disclosing</u>.

Personal information disclosed on any element of the scholarship application will be <u>handled respectfully</u> and discussed in closed meetings with Sorority membership for the purposes of application evaluation or the scholarship award process. Scholarship award recipient's name, high school, GPA, and/or college plans may be shared to recognize, celebrate, and/or honor scholarship award recipients.

The Scholarship Committee will interview eligible candidates before any final decisions are made.  Applicants will be notified of their application status after the application deadline.

<u>Instructions</u>

1. Your completed application/packet may be submitted in two ways:

   a. **Online is Preferable:** Fill out the online form and submit it or save it to your device under "Your full name Application". Then attach the scholarship application file and/or any other components in an email to scholarship@bbaacdst.org or drag it as an attached file in the online form to submit your application. All required elements of the scholarship packet must be emailed and received by the **March 8, 2024** deadline. **It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure the application is complete and submitted by the deadline.** Questions are welcome via email to scholarship@bbaacdst.org .

   b. Mail: All required elements of the scholarship packet must be mailed to P.O. Box and postmarked by the **March 8, 2024** deadline.

      Send completed application packets to:

      **ATTN: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

      **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**
      **Berkeley Bay Area Alumnae Chapter**

      **P.O. Box 3868**
      **Berkeley, CA 94703**

<u>Contact Information</u>
The President of the Berkeley Bay Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is Petrina Alexander-Perteet.

If you have any questions, please e-mail the Scholarship Chair, Mecca Shakoor-Cook at: scholarship@bbaacdst.org .

 **Good luck!!**