

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 African/African American descent 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. a recommendation letter and a grade report verification letter for ~~the~~ using an unofficial grade report or unable to submit an official transcript) on letterhead as stipulated in the Scholarship Application Packet Checklist (p.2 of this document). Electronic submissions are preferable. Submission of materials in portions is allowed, yet please 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. 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.
5. 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 does not 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 confirming their eligibility of the scholarship and agreeing to be contacted as part of the scholarship evaluation and/or awarding process;
2. One letter of recommendation. Please choose only one letter to submit from any of the following options:
  - a high school counselor or administrator on **official letterhead**;
  - a teacher on **official letterhead**; or
  - a letter of recommendation verifying your service to your community or school on **official letterhead**;

A strong recommendation will include: the capacity in which the recommender knows the applicant, any contributions to the school, class, or organization they can speak of for the candidate, and any notable and positive personal characteristics and leadership.

3. An official transcript OR an unofficial grade report accompanied by a letter on letterhead or from a school email account of a school official verifying the grade report to be true;
4. An essay:
  - **Essay prompt:** What are your college education and career goals and why are they important to you?
    - This may include discovery, current activities, and experiences and should expound on what the candidate feels is important for their life beyond creating a livelihood.
    - **Length is a minimum of 1 page and a maximum two and a half pages** (margins are at a maximum of 1 inch, but can be slightly smaller; font size should be no larger than 12pt and no smaller than 10.5pt);
5. All elements of the scholarship application (Items 1-4 of this list) submitted online or via postal mail and postmarked by the **March 7th, 2025 deadline**.
6. 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.
7. **It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure the scholarship application (Items 1-4 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 complete application. A strong competitive application will include the following:

- A complete, well-presented application that is clear, organized, and generally free of errors,
- Strong or higher GPAs over the years of high school,
- Challenging courses or course load at their high school (H, AP, IB, and/or CL courses),
- Detailed, well-composed essays, where the reader learns something about the candidate,
- A strong letter of recommendation (reiterated from #2 in the checklist on p. 2 of this document) will include the following: the capacity in which the recommender knows the applicant, any contributions to the school, class, or organization they can speak of for the candidate, and any notable and positive personal characteristics and leadership.
- Applicants that can provide helpful explanations or contextual information of their circumstances in their essay\*\*.

\*\*Examples of circumstances may include but are not limited to a poor grade, an upward grade trend, illness that occurred in high school that effected school performance, changing schools that effected course choice or school performance, being the only student of color in spaces, limit or exclusion of student clubs or activities, a school environment in which elements of diversity, equity or inclusion are excluded or attacked, financial changes that affected academic performance, and/or any other personal issues the applicant feels comfortable disclosing.

Personal information disclosed on any element of the scholarship application will be handled respectfully 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 decisions are finalized. Applicants will be notified of their application status after the application deadline.

## Instructions

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](mailto: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 7, 2025** deadline. Please do not forget to click the submit button of the online form to be considered. **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](mailto:scholarship@bbaacdst.org) .
  - b. Mail: All required elements of the scholarship packet must be mailed to the P.O.Box and postmarked by the **March 7, 2025** 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**

## Contact Information

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](mailto:scholarship@bbaacdst.org) .

**Good luck!!**

