

# Phyllis Utterback Scholarship Program Overview & Guidelines

# **Scholarship Description**

A \$2,000 scholarship is available to a student currently in their senior year attending a Howard County public school, with a strong commitment to education and family.

# **About Phyllis Utterback**

This scholarship is offered to honor the memory of Phyllis Utterback in recognition of her remarkable commitment to education, youth and family. Phyllis was the former internal program evaluator at the Horizon Foundation after working twenty-five years for the Howard County Public School System where she served as Supervisor of Assessment for the school system and was a member of the Superintendent's Leadership Council. Dr. Utterback was also a Faculty Associate at the Johns Hopkins School of Professional Studies in Business and Education. She was an examiner for the national Baldridge Quality Awards for many years and was a member of the Board of the Maryland State Quality Awards.

Dr. Utterback's commitment to education could be seen through her community involvement. She served on the Alumni Board of Directors for Gettysburg College, where she received her bachelor degree; she was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Howard Community College Educational Foundation; and a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a professional organization for educators.

She was a strong advocate for positive youth development and youth voice; lending her skills, knowledge, guidance and support to the Foundation's Connections initiative. Most important to Phyllis was her family—her husband of 48 years, her three sons, their wives and her five grandchildren as well as her 94 year old father and her brothers and sister.

Phyllis had a lifetime love for learning. Whether it was assuring that her sons received the education and supports they needed to succeed; her own return to school later in life for her Masters Degree and Ph.D. in education later in life and continued learning at Hopkins Evergreen Program or her willingness to share her knowledge with others, Phyllis Utterback epitomized the impact and value of education and the positive role it can play in the lives of both young and old.

# **Eligibility Criteria**

Candidates for the Phyllis Utterback Scholarship must:

- 1. Attend a Howard County, Maryland public school;
- 2. Plan to pursue a degree in secondary education;
- 3. Plan to attend a two- or four-year college/university; and,
- 4. Have an unweighted 3.0 cumulative average through Grade 11. In addition, an unweighted grade point average of 3.0 must be maintained through the first semester of Grade 12.

#### **Application Materials**

Applications for the Phyllis Utterback Scholarship must include:

- 1. A complete and signed application form;
- 2. A response to the following questions/Comments:

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- a. Describe your educational plans,
- b. Describe your career goals,
- c. What impact will this scholarship will have on your educational plans and career goals, and
- d. Provide a statement of financial need;
- 3. One confidential personal letter of recommendation from an academic teacher or employment supervisor; and
- 4. An unofficial high school transcript through Grade 11; and,
- 5. An unofficial copy of the first semester Grade 12 report card.

Students are responsible for ensuring that all components of the application are submitted by the due date.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

The Community Foundation of Howard County will evaluate all applications based on the following criteria:

- 1. Compliance with eligibility criteria
- 2. Student Essay
- 3. Confidential letter of recommendation
- 4. Strength of student's transcript
- 5. Financial need will be considered in the case of a tie.

#### Award Notification and Acceptance

The Foundation will provide applicants with updates and award decisions via the online application system.

The selected applicant will receive a certificate at the schools Senior Awards Ceremony and, upon receipt by the Foundation of the required materials, the scholarship will be sent to the accredited institution.

## Questions

The Community Foundation of Howard County can address questions about this scholarship program.

#### About the Community Foundation of Howard County

Founded in 1969 as The Columbia Foundation, the Community Foundation of Howard County has awarded more than \$17 million in grants to Howard County nonprofit organizations delivering human service, arts and cultural, educational and civic programs. Money for the grant programs comes primarily from income generated by the Foundation's endowment supported by more than 300 funds established by Howard County businesses, families and individuals.

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