

Scholarship Program Guidelines

Nikole Hannah-Jones Scholarship presented by Howard Hughes Corporation

Scholarship Description

This \$5,000 scholarship is available to two (2) students currently in their senior year at a Howard County Public School, who have been accepted into and plan to attend a two- or four-year college or university to pursue a degree.

The scholarship funds will be available annually beginning in Fall semester 2022.

About the Nikole Hannah-Jones Scholarship

This scholarship is being offered by the Howard Hughes Corporation in honor of Nikole Hannah-Jones and her work. Nikole is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist covering racial injustice for The New York Times Magazine and creator of the landmark 1619 Project. Nikole is known for her coverage of civil rights in the United States.

Eligibility Criteria*

Candidates for the **Nikole Hannah-Jones Scholarship** must:

1. Be a Black student attending a Howard County Public School in Howard County, Maryland
2. Plan to attend a two-or four-year college/university; and
3. Have an unweighted 2.8 or higher cumulative grade point average through Grade 11. In addition, an unweighted grade point average of 2.8 or higher must be maintained through the first semester of Grade 12.

Additionally, applicants who have been awarded the **Nikole Hannah-Jones Scholarship presented by Howard Hughes Corporation** for their freshman year may re-apply for their sophomore, junior, and senior years, so long as they remain enrolled and in good academic standing.

Application Materials

Applications for the **Nikole Hannah-Jones Scholarship** must include:

1. A complete and signed application form.
2. Two short essays of between 300-500 words responding to the following questions:
 1. Describe the impact this scholarship will have on your career plans, educational goals, and as financial support?
 2. What should racial justice look like in America?
3. Two confidential personal letters of recommendation from academic teachers or employment supervisors.
4. An outline of candidate's community service involvement, extra-curricular activities, school clubs and employment (where applicable) from Grade 9 through 12.
5. An unofficial high school transcript through Grade 11; and
6. 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 outline of candidate's community Service involvement, extra-curricular activities, school clubs and employment (where applicable)
3. Confidential letters of recommendation,
4. Strength of student's transcript,
5. Financial need will be considered (not required)

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 school's 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.

*The Community Foundation and Howard Hughes Corporation employees and their respective families are ineligible for this scholarship.