

NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABILITY  
**THE HOWARD CLUB OF  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC  
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM**

*will make*  
**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

**AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS FROM SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
MEETING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS WHO ARE:  
GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS;  
TRANSFERRING COLLEGE STUDENTS; OR  
GRADUATE STUDENTS:**

*Approved to attend*

**HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

**THE HOWARD CLUB WILL MAKE AVAILABLE A NEW  
LESTER SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF THE  
HON. BETTY JOAN LESTER**

**APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM  
MAY BE:**

*downloaded from the Howard Club website*

[howardclubswfl.org](http://howardclubswfl.org)

*downloaded from Education Foundation of Sarasota County website*

[EdFoundationSRQ.org](http://EdFoundationSRQ.org)

*or by contacting the*  
**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON,  
CHARLES H. JONES  
[chjones9974@msn.com](mailto:chjones9974@msn.com)**

## **THE LESTER SCHOLARSHIP**

**The Howard Club Of Southwest Florida Inc.**, has established an endowed annual scholarship in the name of the **Hon. Betty Joan Lester Scholarship**. The Lester Scholarship is established to honor the memory of *Betty Joan Lester* an outstanding graduate of Howard University, and a distinguished Judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey. Judge Lester spent many hours coaching young minority lawyers on how to pass the NJ Bar Examination. She also spent additional hours developing a community based “after-school” program for under-privileged youth. Judge Lester had a love of the written English language and placed a heavy emphasis on developing excellent writing skills. She felt that good writing was an integral part of one’s individual success and accomplishments in life.

*The Lester Scholarship is made possible through the generous gift of her husband Althea Lester.*

**Howard Club of Southwest Florida, Inc.**  
**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM**  
**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

The Scholarship Awards Program is open to students, in Southwest Florida, requiring financial assistance to successfully matriculate Howard University's undergraduate or graduate programs ("Applicants"). The application review, and scholarship selection process will be managed by the Scholarship Committee of the Howard Club of Southwest Florida, Inc. ("The Committee").

**Application and Eligibility** To be eligible to apply for a scholarship ("Scholarship Award"), you must be a U.S. citizen (or legal resident) graduating or recently graduated (in the last 2 years) high school senior, a student already enrolled in Howard University's undergraduate or graduate programs or a student enrolled in another college or University seeking to transfer to Howard or enroll in one of its graduate programs. All *Scholarships Awards* shall be approved for use in an academic degree-granting program at Howard University. To compete for a *Scholarship Award*, you must first complete the Application Form ("Application") attached to this notice (you may use additional pages to complete your answers, if necessary). You must also provide other documentation as described below. You must complete your *Application* and email it along with all supporting documentation to *The Committee* Chairperson at [chjones9974@msn.com](mailto:chjones9974@msn.com) (or to the Howard Club at [scholarship@howardclubswfl.org](mailto:scholarship@howardclubswfl.org)). After you have submitted your Application you may also be requested to participate in an interview.

**Other Documentation**

The following additional items must be included with your Application: (1) An official school Transcript; (2) A short Essay; and (3) Two Letters of Recommendation.

- **Transcript** – Your Transcript must be sent directly from your current or most recently attended high school or college to the address listed on the Application.
- **Essay** - Your essay must be limited to 500 words. Your essay should make a connection between higher education and your personal, academic and career aspirational goals, articulate how you plan to achieve those goals and how the *Scholarship Award* will fit into that plan. Your Essay should highlight your:
  - **Engagement** – discuss extracurricular volunteer, internship, work or research experiences or other experiences that add to your academic pursuits;
  - **Leadership** – discuss your role in, or contribution to, any experiences discussed;
  - **Sense of Purpose** – provide evidence of having a sense of direction and an understanding of how that sense of direction has developed through past experiences.
- **Letters of Recommendation** - Your Letters of Recommendation may come from many sources: teachers, counselors, ministers, community members, employers, etc. Letters of Recommendation may not come from a family member. One of your Letters of Recommendation should come from a volunteer experience. The Letters should also provide context for assessing your potential for managing college level studies at Howard University.

**Financial Need**

Financial need is an important component of your Application and of your *Scholarship Award* eligibility. In determining financial need, *The Committee* will not rely solely on fixed family income levels, but will incorporate a composite of criteria that includes:

- Other sources of funds or scholarships available to you;

- A parent's, guardian's, or relative's ability to supplement a portion of your tuition and/or other education related expenses;
- Your ability to defray a portion of your tuition and/or other education related expenses through part-time jobs or internships. Ultimately the decision on financial need will be based on a comparative assessment of how all Applicants address the criteria above.

### **Application Review and Scoring.**

To complete its Application review process The Committee will review, rank and score all *Applications* and notify you of the status of your *Application*. *The Committee* will weigh several criteria when evaluating your request for a *Scholarship Award*. These criteria will include:

- Scholarship – excellence in academic performance
- Essay – a demonstration of aspirational goals and interests
- Service and Leadership – evidence of a commitment to support the world around you
- References – evidence that you have impressed others to champion you.
- Financial Need – demonstration of a critical need of the scholarship award

### **Disbursement of Scholarship Awards**

The amount of each *Scholarship Award* shall be at the discretion of the Howard Club of Southwest Florida, Inc. and be subject to the total funds available and the number of *Applicants* to receive *Scholarship Awards* each year. *Scholarship Awards* will be disbursed directly to Howard University. The *Scholarship Award* must be used within 12 months of being awarded.

### **Procedures for the Maintenance of Scholarship Awards**

To secure the initial release of the funds (50% of the *Scholarship Award* for the academic year) for your first semester and secure release of the balance of the funds to maintain your *Scholarship Award* for the second and all subsequent semesters, you must submit an email to *The Committee* Chairperson Charles H Jones, at [chjones9974@msn.com](mailto:chjones9974@msn.com) (or to the Howard Club at [scholarship@howardclubswfl.org](mailto:scholarship@howardclubswfl.org) ) providing the following information:

- the Howard Club must receive a copy of Howard University's documentation to you of your enrollment in the Howard University program for which your *Scholarship Award* is sought (To secure the disbursement of the initial 50%).
- the Howard Club must receive a copy of your official transcript, **sent by Howard University**, documenting: that you have achieved a minimum grade point average of 2.75 for your just completed semester and that you are a student in "good standing" at Howard University (to secure funding of your *Scholarship Award* for the next semester)

### **Procedures for the Renewal of Scholarship Awards**

You may also apply to have your Scholarship Award funded for the next academic year (a "Renewal"). In order to be eligible for consideration of a *Renewal* of your *Scholarship Award* you must complete a new application summarizing your performance in the just completed academic year (the "*Scholarship Award Renewal Application*") The *Scholarship Award Renewal Application* is also attached to this notice and should be completed and emailed to *The Committee* Chairperson at [chjones9974@msn.com](mailto:chjones9974@msn.com) (or the website of the Howard Club at [scholarship@howardclubswfl.org](mailto:scholarship@howardclubswfl.org) ) after you have received your grades at the end of each academic year in order secure the continuance of your Scholarship Award for the next year .

The *Scholarship Award Renewal Application* will summarize your past year's performance in the following areas:

- Maintenance of at least a 2.75 grade point average;
- Maintenance of a status of a student in good standing at Howard University;
- Continuing ability to demonstrate leadership and community support activities;

If you are approved for a *Renewal* the amount of your *Scholarship Award* may differ from the amount you received in the previous year.

**Howard Club of Southwest Florida, Inc.  
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM  
APPLICATION**

*Failure to honestly and completely provide the information requested will result in immediate disqualification for current and future scholarship award consideration as well as the recovery of any unspent previously awarded funds. All application documents and discussions will be kept confidential without exception.*

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date? \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Field of Study (college major): \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Academic Status - Circle One - (High School Senior/Graduate, HU Freshman, HU Sophomore, HU Junior, HU Senior, HU Graduate)

**LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

1. LIST ANY VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST 2 YRS. (ORGANIZATION'S AND PHONE)

Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

2. DESCRIBE YOUR LEADERSHIP ROLES/ EXPERIENCES IN THE ABOVE ORGANIZATIONS.

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**6. EXPLAIN YOUR PERSONAL/FAMILY FINANCIAL SITUATION AND WHY YOU NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?**

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**7. LIST ANY OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS OR SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS YOU HAVE RECEIVED.**

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**8. LIST ANY AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS YOU HAVE RECEIVED.**

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**Your completed Application and all required attachments must be emailed to The Committee Chairperson at [chjones9974@msn.com](mailto:chjones9974@msn.com) (or the website of the Howard Club at [scholarship@howardclubswfl.org](mailto:scholarship@howardclubswfl.org)) no later than August 1<sup>st</sup>.**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Applicant Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian's Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**Howard Club of Southwest Florida, Inc.  
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM**

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RENEWAL APPLICATION**

*You may use additional sheets of paper to complete you answers, if necessary. Failure to honestly and completely provide the information requested will result in immediate disqualification for current and future scholarship award consideration as well as the recovery of any unspent previously awarded funds. All application documents and discussions will be kept confidential without exception.*

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Personal E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

College Major: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date? \_\_\_\_\_

ACADEMIC STATUS - Circle One - HU Freshman, HU Sophomore, HU Junior, HU Senior, HU Graduate)

1. **SUMMARIZE YOUR LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES OVER THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR.**

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2. **SUMMARIZE YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES OVER THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR**

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3. **DESCRIBE ANY SPECIAL CHALLENGES OR ISSUES YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED OVER THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR.**

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*I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE RECEIVED NO DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS FROM HOWARD UNIVERSITY OVER THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE I AM A STUDENT IN GOOD STANDING AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY.*

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Renewal Application and all required attachments must be emailed to The Committee Chairperson at [chjones9974@msn.com](mailto:chjones9974@msn.com) (or the website of the Howard Club at [scholarship@howardclubswfl.org](mailto:scholarship@howardclubswfl.org) ) after you have received your grades at the end of the academic year.**