

NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABILITY

THE HOWARD CLUB OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM
OF 2021-2022

will make

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

***AVAILABLE TO NEW OR CONTINUING HOWARD UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS, IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA MEETING PROGRAM
REQUIREMENTS***

SEEKING TO ATTEND HOWARD UNIVERSITY IN THE FALL OF 2022

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

APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

will become available

**OCTOBER 15th, 2021 AND MUST BE COMPLETED BY JANUARY 15th OF 2022.
APPLICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS**

or downloaded from the Howard Club website

howardclubswfl.org

or by contacting the

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON,

CHARLES H. JONES

chjones9974@msn.com

THE LESTER SCHOLARSHIP

The Howard Club Of Southwest Florida Inc., shall establish an endowed annual scholarship to be known as the **Hon. Betty Joan Lester Scholarship**. The Lester Scholarship is established to honor the memory of the *Hon. Betty Joan Lester*. Betty Joan Lester was 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 how to pass the NJ Bar Examination. She spent additional hours developing a community based after school program for under privileged youth. Judge Lester had a love of English writing and placed a heavy emphasis on developing excellent writing skills and 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

Thank you for participating in the Howard Club of Southwest Florida, Inc. Scholarship Awards Program. 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 graduating high school senior or recently graduated (in the last 2 years), a student currently enrolled at Howard University or a student enrolled in a Howard University graduate program that is a U.S. citizen or a legal resident. 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 requested supporting documentation to *The Howard Club's website* at scholarship@howardclubswfl.org in sufficient time for it to be received by *The Committee* by January 15, 2022, or you may email it to *The Committee* Chairperson at chjones9974@msn.com.

After you have submitted your Application you may be requested to participate in an interview if *The Committee* has additional questions regarding your *Application* that require clarification ("*Interview*"). *The Committee* will notify you of the status of your *Application* for a Scholarship Award by March 15, 2022.

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 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; and

- **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 subsequently 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

The Committee may request that you participate in an *Interview* to clarify on one or more areas of your *Application* or supporting documents.

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 it being announced.

Procedures for the Maintenance of Scholarship Awards

To secure the initial release of the funds (generally equal to 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 semester, you must submit an email to *The Club* at scholarship@howardclubswfl.org or you may email it to *The Committee* Chairperson at chjones9974@msn.com and provide the documentation listed below:

- **By August 1st**, to secure the disbursement of the initial funds for the first semester, you must provide documentation of your enrollment in the Howard University program for which your *Scholarship Award* is sought.
- **By December 15th**, to secure the release of the balance of the funds to maintain your *Scholarship Award* for your next semester, you must provide documentation that you have achieved a minimum grade point average of 2.75 for your just completed semester and you are a continuing student enrolled in the second semester at Howard University.

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 but must only be completed and emailed to the *Club* at scholarship@howardclubswfl.org or you may email it to *The Committee* Chairperson at chjones9974@msn.com by January 15th. of each year after your initial *Scholarship Award* was approved.

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 approved for *Renewal* of your *Scholarship Award*, you will be notified by March 15th. 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.

3. DESCRIBE THE ONE ACCOMPLISHMENT IN YOUR VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES THAT BEST DEMONSTRATES YOUR LEADERSHIP ABILITY.

4. LIST THREE REASONS WHY YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND HOWARD UNIVERSITY.

5. LIST THE 2 PEOPLE THAT YOU WILL ASK TO PROVIDE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.

Name _____ Title/Occupation _____

Address _____ How long has this person known you? _____

Name _____ Title/Occupation _____

Address _____ How long has this person known you? _____

FAMILY/FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Father's/Guardian's Name _____ Address _____

Mother's/Guardian's Name _____ Address _____

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

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

8. LIST ANY AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS YOU HAVE RECEIVED.

Your completed Application and all required attachments must be emailed to the Club's website at scholarship@howardclubswfl.org or to The Committee Chairperson at chjones9974@msn.com by January 15th.

_____ (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.

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

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

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 completed Application and all required attachments must be emailed to the Club's website at scholarship@howardclubswfl.org or to The Committee Chairperson at chjones9974@msn.com by January 15th.