



Requirements of Award Acceptance

We are very pleased to learn of your interest in this scholarship program and want to inform you of the following conditions, if you are chosen to be a scholarship recipient:

1. We will need your contact information as you continue your education with the assistance of the Bernie Scholarship Award. We do this in order to follow up with you and to bring you up to date about additional Bernie Scholarship Award opportunities, for you (should you choose to apply for an additional award in subsequent years) and for others.
2. We will need for you to keep us informed if and when your contact information changes, as we know it will.
3. We plan to ask you how things are going through a brief questionnaire that we send to all award recipients during the year in which your award is made, and again in the following year. We will need for you to agree to respond to our survey (the statistics that we collect from surveys will help us to raise additional scholarship funds for future awards). Also, we genuinely care about how things are going for you.
4. We will need for you to agree that when you apply the Bernie Scholarship Award funds to your education, you briefly will describe to us in writing how these funds were used. For example: Did you purchase books? Pay for tuition or fees? Pay for child care?

All of us at The Bernie Scholarship Awards Program, which recognizes resiliency, courage, drive and persistence, are very pleased that you are considering applying for a scholarship. If awarded to you, you will join the over 100 distinguished Bernie Scholarship Awards Program's prior recipients.

IMPORTANT DATES in 2010:

- Deadline for applications to be postmarked **Friday March 19**
- Applicant interviews **Saturday May 1**
- Scholarship awards event **Thursday May 13**

P.O. Box 2514 | Rockville, MD 20847-2514



**IMPORTANT: Applications MUST be postmarked no later than
March 19, 2010**

The Bernie Scholarship Awards Program provides financial assistance to help offset educational and training expenses for low and moderate income students who live in affordable housing in Montgomery County, Maryland, and who receive housing assistance from The Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) or live in the Scotland Community or in housing owned or managed by Rockville Housing Enterprises or Edgewood Management Corporation. We assist with tuition and/or school related expenses. The Bernie Scholarship Awards Program was established in honor of Bernard Tetreault and his 24 years as Executive Director of Montgomery County's Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC). It is funded by tax deductible private contributions and administered by an independent Board of Directors. Please see www.berniescholarships.org.

Who is eligible for a Bernie Scholarship? *You may be eligible if you meet the following:*

1. Residency: Applicant must be a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland, in housing owned, managed or administered by HOC, Rockville Housing Enterprises or Edgewood Management Corporation or who live in Scotland Community.
2. **Total household annual income must not exceed \$45,000.**
3. Applicant must be one of the following:
 - a high school senior
 - other adult in college or vocational school who completed high school or GED
 - other adult planning to begin or return to college or vocational school who completed high school or GED

Application Procedures (applications must be postmarked no later than March 19):

1. Applicant **must** submit the following application materials:
 - a. All attached forms, completed and signed
 - b. A transcript (indicating a minimum GPA of 2.0) or statement
*If in school now, a current high school or college transcript OR
If not currently enrolled in a school or program, a transcript of the highest level of high school, college, or other educational program completed, OR your statement telling us what year you completed high school or GED.*
 - c. Statement of goals
 - d. Release of Information Form
 - e. Completion of the Planning Guide (page 7 enclosed)—*be sure to do this in full*
 - f. **Two (2) recommendations** (forms attached)
One recommendation should be academic, preferably from a teacher/instructor (if you are not now in school then from a caseworker/counselor or employer or other person who knows you well - NOT a relative); the second should be from someone who knows of your public &/or community service involvement or another of the above categories.

2. **If your application is not complete with all above materials, it will not be considered.**

Send completed application and forms, **postmarked no later than March 19., 2010**, to:

**The Bernie Scholarship Awards Program
P.O. Box 2514 | Rockville, MD 20847-2514**

Selection Criteria:

Applications are considered based on need and general quality, with **preference given to those who have performed public and/or community service and/or plan to enter a field of work related to public service.** Interviews will be arranged for finalists.



THE BERNIE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

Application Form

Please use ink and print clearly. Use the reverse side or additional pages if necessary.

Full Name and Address of Applicant:

SSN*:

Last First Middle Initial

_____ [_____]

Street Address Apt. # City State Zip [Housing Development]

*If you wish to be considered for an award of more than \$600, you must provide your Social Security Number (SSN). Applications without an SSN will be considered for awards under \$600.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

SEX: Male Female Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Email _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ _____ _____ PARENT/Guardian (if youth): _____
Mo. Day Yr.

Family Size: _____ Total Household Annual Income: \$ _____

Please indicate the category that best describes your present overall educational goal:

- I plan to earn a degree or certificate at (school name) _____
- The major I have selected is _____ or _____
- I am undecided about a major at this time
- I do not intend to pursue a degree. I plan to take courses for a certificate or vocational program in _____.

SCHOOL/OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Name of current/most recent school

Did you complete Tech Prep Program?
 Yes, in _____ No

City State Zip Code

Dates attended: From _____ to _____ Expected date of graduation/completion: _____
Month Year

Cumulative grade average: _____ OR if you have not had post-high school studies, give the date you graduated (or will graduate) from high school or completed a GED: _____ Ave. grades: _____
Month Year

If you have taken any of the tests below, please note your scores:

SAT composite:	Critical Reading:	Writing:	Mathematics:
ACT composite:	English: Reading:	Math:	Science:
Other: _____	Score:	Score:	

Please list *other* education or training programs you have attended, including high school and/or college:

Program/School Name	Dates of attendance	Cumulative Grade Average	Completed? Yes/No

Please list the program you plan to attend for which you would use Bernie Scholarship funds:

Program/School Name	Planned Dates of Attendance	Applied? Yes/No	Accepted? Yes/No

High school seniors respond here regarding your community activities:

Did you exceed the 60 hours of community service required for MCPS graduation? __No __Yes

If yes, describe what service you performed over the 60-hour requirement & number of hours.

List participation in extra-curricular, volunteer or community service activities.

List any recognition/awards received during the last 2 years in the community or at school..

Other adults respond here regarding your community activities:

List participation in extra-curricular, volunteer or community service activities. These may include activities at your children’s schools, your congregation or other community settings.

List any recognition/awards received during the last 2 years in the community or at work.

Employment History:

	Employer’s Name and Address	Your Position	Dates of Employment	Name/Phone of Supervisor
Current Employment				
Previous 1:				
Previous 2:				

Other: Please describe your efforts toward raising your level of earnings and your ability to support yourself/your family at a livable wage (If needed, attach a separate sheet).

APPLICANT’S GOALS

(Please provide the following information fully, and sign the certification statement below.)

In a short paragraph of 50-100 words, please tell us about your strengths and goals. Also include what you want to study and why, as well as what career you would like to have five years from now.

The following are other sources where I plan to get additional funds:

Source	Pending Amount	Amount Approved/Awarded

Total that I need for one academic year: \$_____. This amount covers costs for:
 ___ Tuition ___ Room ___ Board ___ Books ___ Transportation ___ Childcare ___ Other: _____

CERTIFICATION

I _____ (print name), certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all statements in this application are true and accurate.

 Signature of Applicant Date: _____

PERMISSION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION TO THE BERNIE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

I _____ (adult member of household) and _____ (student/applicant) give permission for release of information related to my household composition, household income and financial aid information to The Bernie Scholarship Selection Committee, for the sole purpose of determining my award eligibility by evaluating financial need for his/her award application.

Signed: _____ Print Name: _____
 HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

Signed: _____ Print Name: _____
 STUDENT/APPLICANT



PLANNING GUIDE for EDUCATIONAL FUNDS NEEDED
We require all applicants for The Bernie to apply for federal and state funding for tuition and books. Please answer the following to tell us what steps you have taken to obtain sufficient funds.

I have submitted the following:

IF YOU ARE A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR

- _____ The Guaranteed Access (GAG) 4-Year Scholarship Application * ***(due March 1st)***
- _____ State Scholarship Application**

I have submitted the following:

ALL APPLICANTS complete this check-off (including high school students)

- _____ FAFSA*** for the Federal Pell Grant (this should be submitted ***in January***; Montgomery College's deadline is in ***May 15th***; 4-year colleges'

deadline is **March 1st**)
Montgomery College Foundation****
MAHRA***** **due by April 1st** to HOC's Executive Director
State Scholarship Application**
State Educational Access Grant**
Maryland Legislative Scholarships
Herb Block application (community college students with less than 30 credits)

*available from high school counselors and career information coordinators or Maryland State Department of Education (410)260-4565 for the GAG or MD Dept. of Ed. (410)260-4500x1 or Federal Dept. of Education 1(800)433-3243 or by email at <http://filemaker.mcps.k12.md.us/scholarships/>

**available from the Maryland State Department of Education, <http://www.mhec.state.md.us/financialAid/ProgramDescriptions/progWSSAG.asp> & www.fastweb.com

***Free Application for Federal Student Aid, <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. For assistance with completing the FAFSA or anything related to college enrollment, call the Educational Opportunity Center at 240-567-5644. If you are not eligible for FAFSA, explain why:

**** www.montgomerycollege.edu/finaid

*****Maryland Association of Housing & Redevelopment Agencies, www.mahra.net

RECOMMENDATION FORM THE BERNIE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM



Awards will be made to residents who live in the Scotland Community or in housing owned, managed or administered by the Housing Opportunities Commission, Rockville Housing Enterprises or Edgewood Management.

Awards will be made on the basis of need and the applicant's record as evidenced by the application, references and interview (of finalists). Preference will be given to those who have performed public and/or community service and/or have a public service career as a goal. Scholarship awards may be used for tuition or school related expenses (child care services, books, transportation, equipment etc.)

One recommendation should be academic, preferably from a teacher/instructor, or if the applicant is not now in school then from a caseworker/counselor, employer or other person (NOT a relative) who knows the applicant well.

The second recommendation should be from someone who knows of your public and/or community service involvement (NOT a relative).

Name of applicant: _____

How do you know the applicant? _____

Length of time you have known the applicant? _____

Please tell The Bernie Selection Committee why you think this applicant should be awarded a scholarship. Use reverse side or additional pages if necessary. **This must be received no later than March 19, 2010.**

Name (please print): _____ Title: _____ Date _____

Address (please print): _____

Telephone (office) _____ (home) _____

Mail this to:
The Bernie Scholarship Awards Program
P.O. Box 2514 | Rockville, MD 20847-2514

Name of Applicant (Last name, First name): _____

**RECOMMENDATION FORM
THE BERNIE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM**



Awards will be made to residents who live in the Scotland Community or in housing owned, managed or administered by the Housing Opportunities Commission, Rockville Housing Enterprises or Edgewood Management.

Awards will be made on the basis of need and the applicant’s record as evidenced by the application, references and interview (of finalists). Preference will be given to those who have performed public and/or community service and/or have a public service career as a goal. Scholarship awards may be used for tuition or school related expenses (child care services, books, transportation, equipment etc.)

One recommendation should be academic, preferably from a teacher/instructor, or if the applicant is not now in school then from a caseworker/counselor, employer or other person (NOT a relative) who knows the applicant well.

The second recommendation should be from someone who knows of your public and/or community service involvement (NOT a relative).

Name of applicant: _____

How do you know the applicant? _____

Length of time you have known the applicant? _____

Please tell The Bernie Selection Committee why you think this applicant should be awarded a scholarship. Use reverse side or additional pages if necessary. **This must be received no later than March 19, 2010.**

Name (please print): _____ **Title:** _____ **Date** _____

Address (please print): _____

Telephone (office) _____ **(home)** _____

**Mail this to:
The Bernie Scholarship Awards Program
P.O. Box 2514 | Rockville, MD 20847-2514**

Name of Applicant: _____

CHECKLIST FOR THE BERNIE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

Check to be certain that you have completed and will enclose each of these items:

- _____ 1. **Application** form completed and signed and postmarked no later than **March 19**.
- _____ 2. **Transcript:**
 - _____ a) *Current high school or college transcript If in school now **OR***
 - _____ b) *Transcript of the highest level of high school, college, or other educational program completed (If not currently enrolled in a school) **OR***
 - _____ c) *Your statement telling us what year you completed high school or GED.*
- _____ 3. **Planning Guide** (page 6 enclosed) completed in full.
- _____ 4. **Release of Information** form (page 5 enclosed) completed and signed.
- _____ 5. **Two references.**
- _____ 6. **Statement of your goals and financial need** (page 5 enclosed) completed in full.

IMPORTANT: If your application is not complete with ALL of the above materials, it will be denied. If it is not postmarked by March 19, 2010, it will be denied. Be sure to follow up with your TWO references to ensure that they mail in their recommendation forms no later than March 19: One recommendation should be academic, preferably from a teacher/instructor, or if you are not now in school then from a caseworker/counselor, employer or other person (NOT a relative) who knows you well; the other recommendation should be from someone who knows of your children's school involvement, civic, religious &/or community service involvement.

AGREEMENT FOR THE BERNIE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

I agree to the following, if I am chosen to receive a scholarship:

- To provide my contact information and updated information as I continue my education
- To respond to inquiries and questionnaires about my educational and other activities
- To report on what I used the funds for—books, tuition, fees, child care, etc.

Agreed to by: _____

Date: _____

Print name: _____

