

HERBERT LEHMAN EDUCATION FUND

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IN 1954, after nearly 20 years of litigation, the U.S. Supreme Court found the doctrine of “separate but equal” unconstitutional in the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. To secure the hard-won gains of *Brown*, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (“LDF”) established the Herbert Lehman Education Fund in 1964.

LDF’S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS were established to provide financial assistance to African-American undergraduate and law students who would have previously been denied access to higher education on the basis of race and to encourage African-American students to attend the newly desegregated colleges, public universities, and law schools of the South.

OUR MISSION TODAY

The mission of the Herbert Lehman Education Fund is to help transform the promise of racial equality into a social, economic, and political reality for all people by supporting talented undergraduate students who need financial help to stay in school and successfully complete their bachelor’s degree.

Currently, undergraduate scholarships are open to students who meet the eligibility and award criteria. Awards generally do not exceed four years.

ELIGIBILITY & AWARD CRITERIA

- U.S. Citizen
- Graduating high school senior; first-year student in an accredited four-year college; or a student transferring to an accredited four-year college
- Financial need (Demonstrated family income of \$65,000 or less)
- Record of academic achievement
- Demonstrated commitment to public service

Applicants should hold a record of academic achievement, exhibit the qualities of leadership, show a demonstrable commitment to public service (e.g. through volunteer or other activities,) and demonstrate financial need. They must be of excellent character and have a clear understanding of their educational goals and academic abilities. Undergraduate awards are \$2,000 per year for four years (as long as scholars remain in good academic standing) for a total of \$8,000. **Deadline for applications is April 1.** Final decisions are made by July 15. All applicants will be notified.

LDF’s Scholarship Programs do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, marital status, parental status, physical disability, learning disability, political affiliation, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Your responses must be typed. Written applications will **NOT** be accepted.
2. Please include a copy of the transcript from your high school or college/university with your application.
3. Letters of recommendation should be included with your application. Recommendations from teachers, coaches, clergy, and/or employers who can write about your character and responsibility as a citizen of your community are acceptable.
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FAMILY OR FRIENDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
4. **ALL SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE EMAILED WITH YOUR APPLICATION.** Transcript and letters of recommendation should not be sent separately. Send only material requested – **do not include copies of awards, certificates, etc.**
5. We are accepting applications by email **ONLY**. All nine items listed on the checklist must be attached in one PDF with application and documents in the order of the checklist, and sent to scholarships@naacpldf.org with the subject line: Herbert Lehman – Last name, First name. **Applications sent by mail or fax will not be considered.**

IMPORTANT TIPS

Failure to complete any portion of the application greatly reduces your chance of being awarded a scholarship.

Applications should be complete and neat. To be considered complete, it must include: evidence of scholastic achievement and public service – SAT/ACT scores – financial need – résumé – essay – personal statement – recommendation letters, etc. (Please see the full checklist below).

Once you have fully completed the application, send it in one PDF document, including official application form and all supporting documents, in the order listed below to:
scholarships@naacpldf.org

REMEMBER

A COMPLETE application must contain all items in the order listed below:

- Completed Scholarship Application Form;**
- Copy of acceptance letter to college you will attend in the fall (if already received);**
- 2 recommendation letters;**
- Résumé;**
- One essay;**
- One personal statement;**
- Official transcript from current school;**
- Copy of SAT and ACT test scores;**
- Copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR);**
- Finalists will be required to submit a recent head and shoulder photograph [passport size] when notified**

DEADLINE

Applications must be emailed by
APRIL 1, 2018 at 11:59pm (EST)
to
scholarships@naacpldf.org

UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION

(MUST BE TYPED)

Name: _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Birth Date: _____ *mm/dd/yyyy* Gender: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Email: Personal: _____ School: _____

Permanent Home Address: _____
Number & Street Apt. #

City/Town State Zip Code

If Different From Above, please give your current mailing address for all scholarship correspondence.

Current Mailing Address: _____
Number & Street Apt. #

City/Town State Zip Code

Place of Birth: City: _____ State: _____

Are you a United States Citizen? YES NO Other: [Country] _____

Race: White Hispanic Black Asian Other: _____

High School Name: _____ Graduation Date: _____

List your SAT and ACT test scores: ACT _____ SAT _____

Check here if already enrolled in college/university: Freshman Sophomore

College/University Name: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

GPA (weighted GPAs must be converted to the standard 4.0 scale): H.S. GPA _____ or College GPA _____

FAMILY

Please list both parents or your legal guardian below. If you wish, you may list stepparents and/or other adults with whom you reside.

With whom do you make your permanent home? Parents Guardian

Mr. Ms.: _____ Mr. Ms.: _____

Home address if different from yours Home address if different from yours

Email: _____ Email: _____

Tel: _____ Tel: _____

FINANCIAL NEED

Please enclose a complete copy of your FAFSA form.

| Estimated Expenses and Funds Available | |
|--|--|
| <i>Cost of Attendance [COA]*</i> | |
| <i>Expected Family Contribution [EFC from the FAFSA]</i> | |
| <i>Parents Adjusted Gross Income reported on the FAFSA form line 85</i> | |
| <i>Other Funds Available for School Year [grants, awards, scholarships, gifts, etc.]</i> | |

***Please note:** Most schools provide on their website or through their financial aid office a total **Cost of Attendance (COA)** that includes tuition, fees, room and board, and an allowance for books, supplies, transportation, etc. Please find and enter the COA above. If your school does not provide a COA, provide an estimate of these expenses followed by "EST."

3. College or university you will or currently attend:

Name _____ City _____ State _____

If you have already been accepted to a college or university, please attach a copy of your acceptance letter to this application.

If you have applied to several schools but are still undecided or waiting for notification of acceptance, please list and rank the remaining schools by order of preference:

| Name of School: | Rank: |
|-----------------|-------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

REFERENCES

List below the names of two individuals who will write about your character and responsibility as a citizen of your community. Be sure to get permission from each person before listing. **Do not list relatives or friends.**

| Name of recommenders: | Email and Telephone: |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | Tel: |
| | Email: |
| | Tel: |
| | Email: |

ESSAY

You are required to submit **one separate, typed, double-spaced, 500 to 1,000-word essay** with this application. Please select one topic from the following list to be the subject of your essay:

- Explain the racial justice issue of most interest to you.
- Identify a racial disparity in modern society, and how you would use your education to bring about awareness or change.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please submit a brief personal statement explaining the following:

- Your interest in higher education;
- Influences (persons, events books or conditions) which have motivated your interest; and
- Vocational or career plans.

RESUME

Submit a one-page professional résumé with your community service involvement, extra-curricular activities, awards, and work history.

I certify that all information submitted in the application process—including the application, personal essays, supplements and any other supporting materials—is my own work, factually true, and honestly presented, and that these documents will become the property of the Herbert Lehman Education Fund and will not be returned to me. I understand that any scholarship award may be revoked should the information I certified be false.

Signature

Date

I certify and agree that the typed signature above represents my actual signature and endorsement.

Herbert Lehman Education Fund Scholarships are made possible by thousands of voluntary contributions and Foundation support. In seeking contributions to sustain this invaluable program, we would like permission to use your photograph, biographical information, and personal essays and to contact you for interviews. ALL OTHER INFORMATION SUBMITTED IN YOUR APPLICATION (i.e. social security number, financial information and recommendations) WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL. We will only use this information with your consent or the consent of your parent or guardian (if you are under the age of 18).

YES, YOU MAY USE MY PHOTOGRAPH, BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND PERSONAL ESSAYS FROM MY FILE, AND YOU MAY CONTACT ME FOR INTERVIEWS.

Applicant Signature

(If under 18) Parent or Guardian Signature

Date: _____

Date: _____

I certify and agree that the typed signature above represents my actual signature and endorsement.

*The Herbert Lehman Education Fund is administered by the NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC. (LDF). LDF is **not a part** of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) although LDF was founded by that organization and shares its commitment to equal rights. For over 50 years, LDF has maintained a separate Board, program, staff, office, and budget from the NAACP. To learn more about LDF, visit us at www.naacpldf.org.*