Criteria for Applicants

* A graduating high school senior or first year student currently enrolled in a college or university.
* In good academic standing with at least a 2.5 grade point average.
* Provide proof of current membership in the NAACP.

**Applicant Submissions (READ AND SUBMIT ITEMS 1-6)**

To be considered for the award, applicants are required to submit (1) one complete packet of information for review. The Scholarship Committee maintains the right to accept an applicant packet for review and you may apply for only one scholarship, if so desired. Application packets **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY EMAIL OR TEXT.**

**Submissions must include:**

* A completed typewritten application or legibly written in black ink only.
* Include a photograph (3”x5” preferred, wallet sized is acceptable).
* Proof of acceptance into a college or university that you will attend in the fall such as an
	+ acceptance letter, a high school or college *official* transcript or a class schedule showing
	+ your college ID number.
* Two letters of recommendation from the following: a local, state NAACP Officer, a
	+ High school or college official and/or a community or church event official or sponsor.

 *CHOOSE BETWEEN OPTION #1 AND OPTION #2*. Each option requires a 500 word typewritten essay.

* **Option #1:** Read the Scholarship Sponsor Profiles first on the website **(naacp-pender.com).** Select one profile closes to your interest as a college major or career path. You are required to submit a typewritten personal essay (format: 500 words double spaced 12 font) about how this person in the profile has inspired you, your personal life challenges, school and community involvement and your future goals. The essay must show, “How you plan to use your skills to serve your community when you graduate?”
* **Option #2*:*** If your college/career path is outside of the Scholarship Sponsor Profiles, use option #2. Select *a current social issue* wherein you have *very strong* *feelings and be willing to express your concerns for your future and others around the world.* You may select your own issue or select from one of the following issues listed and provide the scholarship committee with a typewritten 500 word double-spaced essay.
	+ - Voter Rights and State Legislation… I Can’t Vote but I Care Who Does!
		- Should African American History be taught in the classroom and by whom?
		- Gun Violence and Safety
		- Why Join a Civic Organization and Give Back to Others?
		- The Effects of Social Media on your Everyday Life
		- OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (type in the name of your own topic).

**Essay will be evaluated on the following criteria:**

 **Content:**

* Typewritten essay(s) with a minimum of 500 words; not to exceed 1000 words.
* The topic is clearly addressed and no plagiarism of content information.
* Ideas are developed and supported.
* Double check your packet to include all submissions**.**

 **Grammatical Structure:**

* Free of run-on sentences and sentence fragments.
* Correct and appropriate word choices.
* Free of spelling errors

 **Organization:**

* Ideas flow with clarity and are supported by research and findings.
* The details are in sequential and logical order.
* The writing has a clear beginning, middle and ending.
* Be sure to proof-read your essay.  Make sure it is legible and in proper order. Have someone you trust critique your essay before submission.
* Remember submit only your best work. Your work is a snapshot of who you really.

**Points to Remember:**

* + - The decision of the Chair and Scholarship Committee are final. All scholarship packets are confidential and will be reviewed and evaluated by the Scholarship Committee members only.
		- Recipients will be notified by the Scholarship Chair at the request of the Local Unit and State President.
		- The Scholarship Recipients are asked to comply with all request to appear and acknowledge the scholarship at an appointed time and place once the formal announcement is made. Ask about the 2025Freedom Fund Banquet, August 16thin Burga). An invitation will be sent to you by the Scholarship Chair.  Refusing to comply means the scholarship CAN BE WITHDRAWN.
		- Recipients must apply the scholarship monies for educational purposes only.
		- Be mindful of the scholarship sponsors. Read the profile page of each scholarship sponsor and learn about them. Some scholarships may have specific requirements that the sponsors have requested. You must meet those criteria as well before submission.

**Application Deadline:   August 2, 2025 by 6:00pm.**

All materials should be mailed or hand delivered in one sealed manila envelope ON-OR-BEFORE the deadline date. No submission will be accepted after the deadline.

CHOOSE THE BEST METHOD TO RETURN THE COMPLETED PACKET :

HAND DELIVERED: Bring your completed packet to the Pender County Library Conference Room before 11am. PLEASE ASK FOR MRS. DYANN ROWELL OR MRS. DEBBIE WALKER.

Or mail the completed packet to: Mrs. Dyann B. Rowell  P.O.Box 68  Currie,  NC  28435 910-619-4715

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUBMISSION**