

**Sweet Moni’s Cares Scholarship Application**

**Application due date: Friday, March 19, 2021**

1. DEADLINE for scholarship applications is Friday, March 19, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. EST **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**
2. Refer to application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e., evidence of GPA, transcript etc.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. If any question does not apply to you in this application please put “N/A” in the space.
4. Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will not be considered.
5. Award recipients will be notified by e-mail and phone in June 2021.
6. If you have any questions about the application, please email Monifa John, Founder of the Sweet Moni’s Cares Scholarship at smcaressf@gmail.com.

**PURPOSE:**

The Sweet Moni’s Cares Scholarship was created on the premise that any motivated individual in need should have the opportunity to further their education. Finances or lack thereof shouldn't be a deterrent when pursuing higher education. We aim to relieve some of the financial burdens associated with college so that students can focus solely on academics. Our mission is to financially assist and to empower young people to unlock their unlimited potential through education and increase college access to minorities. SM Cares Scholarships applicants are asked to give back in some capacity by community service, mentoring others, or through donations. We want our applicants to understand the importance of paying it forward and giving back to the community. Little by little we can all make a difference in the world.

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

The SM Cares Scholarship Fund awards scholarships on the basis of a comprehensive process. Areas that are reviewed by the committee include, but are not limited to the following: Academic Accomplishments, Community Service, and Financial Need. The SM Cares Scholarship Fund pays scholarship funds directly to the recipient’s school. Scholarships awarded are based upon the availability of funds and additional qualifying criteria.

***CRITERIA***

* Applicants must be African American
* Applicants must be a citizen of the United States
* Applicants must currently hold a minimum a weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
* Applicants must be a graduating high school senior or first time college freshman at the time of applying.
* Applicants must be accepted as a full time student at a college or university school program for the Fall 2021 academic semester.
* Applicants must demonstrate a need for financial assistance.
* Student must apply for the 2021 Federal Student Aid Application (FAFSA).
* Applicants must complete and submit a Scholarship Application by **Friday**, **March 19, 2021.**

Requirements also include 250-500 word essay, proof of community service, photo, transcript, and letter(s) of recommendation.

Scholarship awards will be distributed to Bursars office of respective college or university upon verification of enrollment.

**Essay** **Criteria**:

Must submit a 250-500 word essay answering the following (3) questions below:

1. How has your life experiences shaped you into the individual you are today? Is there anything you would do differently?

2. How do you plan to give back and impact the world with your gifts, talents, abilities and/or contributions?

3. How would you define the word "care" in your own words?

**TIMELINE**

* Applications are due by **March 19, 2021 11:59 PM EST.**
* Applicants are notified by phone and email if awarded a scholarship by June 2021.

**Application Process**

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:**

* Completed SM Cares Scholarship application form.
* Unofficial/Official Transcript from the academic institution
* Proof of acceptance at 4 year institution.
* Demonstrated financial need
* Photo
* Proof of community service
* Letter of recommendation
* Letter of acceptance for Fall 2021
* 250-500 word essay with required criteria.

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

* Award notification will be given by June 2021.
* Applicant must provide the correct mailing address of their institution.

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|  Please enter your answers below. Please review application before submission. **If application is illegible it will not be considered.** |
| 1 | Last Name: | First Name: |
| 2 | College/University Mailing Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City: State: ZIP: |
| 3 | Daytime Telephone Number: ( )  Email address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 4 | Name of College/University: |  |
| 5 | I will be attending the following school in the Fall 2021: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 6 | What is your classification? (**Bold** or Underline ONE) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior  |
| 7 | Are you a full time student? Yes (Y) or No (N) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 8 |  Do you/Will you live on campus? Yes (Y) or No (N) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  9 | Grade Point Average (GPA): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (On a 4.0 scale) Attach proof of GPA; your most recent **unofficial OR official** high school/college transcript required.  |
| 10 | What is your current major? (Insert “UND” if Undecided) |

**Please list the following information on a separate sheet if needed.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 11 | **SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:** Please list school extra-curricular activities in which you have participated **(IF APPLICABLE).*** 1.
	2.
	3.
 |
| 12 | **ORGANIZATIONS:** Please list community organizations such as service and volunteer organizations in which you are now active or have previously had been active.1.
2.
3.
 |
| 13 | **RECOGNITIONS**: Please list important awards and recognitions received **(IF APPLICABLE).**1.
2.
3.
 |
| 14 | **NEED:** **IN ONE SENTENCE**, how will the SM Cares Scholarship benefit you? |
| 15 |  **CAREER PLANS: IN ONE SENTENCE** What are your career plans and what would you like to be doing in 10 years? |
| 16 | YOUR CHECKLIST: FOR YOUR PERSONAL USE (Optional)1. The following items must be attached to this application in order for the application to qualify to be reviewed by the scholarship committee.
2. Your application will not be considered if these items are not attached to this application. (No exceptions.)

 C. **BOLD** “YES” or “NO” to be sure you have attached each item as required. |
|  | YES | NO | **Most recent unofficial/official college transcript**. Photocopies of your transcript are **not acceptable**.  |
| YES | NO | **Answers to questions 1-15 & all required information and forms**  |

### STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me to the Sweet Moni’s Cares Scholarship Committee is true, correct and without forgery. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the “SM Cares” Scholarship Program.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to SM Cares scholarship policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Type or Signature of scholarship applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The deadline for this application to be received by the SM Cares Scholarship Center is**

**Friday March 29, 2021 11:59 PM EST. No exceptions!**

**COMPLETED YOUR APPLICATION?**

**ONCE YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETED, PLEASE EMAIL THIS DOCUMENT, ALONG WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO** smcaressf@gmail.com