

2026 MARTIN LUTHER KING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Due date Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 11:59 p.m.

I. GUIDELINES

1. Recipients must be members of a church financially participating in the Community-Wide Martin Luther King Scholarship fund.
2. Applicants must have at least a "C" or 2.0-point average on a 4.0 scale.
3. Consideration and assistance will be given to students pursuing a college education at a two - year or a four-year institution.
4. The application must be submitted online. The letters of recommendation should be scanned, attached, and emailed to info@midsouthchurches.com with "MLK Scholarship 2026" listed in the subject line.
5. The applying applicant should complete and submit the following by the due date and time listed above.
 - a. A completed MLK Scholarship Application form (submitted online).
 - b. A letter attesting to the good character of the applicant. This letter must be signed by the Pastor, Spiritual Leader, or the Church Secretary.
 - c. A letter of recommendation from your High School Principal or a Teacher. This letter should address the applicant's academic preparation and social deportment necessary for a successful college career.
 - d. **A 200–500-word essay explaining why the applicant believes he/she is deserving of and could benefit from this scholarship. The essay must use proper grammar and paragraph structure including introductory and concluding paragraphs.**
 - e. **Transcript and ACT Scores (Note: If the transcript will not be released until graduation, include the most recent progress report by the scholarship application due date. The transcript must be submitted after it becomes available.)**
6. **Applicants who do not submit a 200–500-word composition will not be awarded the scholarship.**

II. AWARDING PROCESS

1. Scholarships will be awarded each year. The amount shall be no less than \$500.00 and no more than \$1000. 00 per award. The number and amount of awards shall further be determined by the Steering Committee based on the availability of funds and number of applicants.
2. The Steering Committee will select persons to review all applications and select the recipient or each award. The decision of the Judges will be final.
3. If the recipient does not enroll in school the first semester following high school graduation, the MLK Scholarship will be forfeited.
4. The scholarship check or money order shall be made out to the college or university as well as the recipient once the recipient has completed the following: Completed the first semester with a minimum grade point average of a 2.0 or C average.