



Brandon Jackson Scholarship Application

For the 12th consecutive year, the *Brandon Jackson Scholarship Fund* brings together the community to support our youth and to commemorate the life of Brandon Jackson, a Muir high school student murdered in February 2011. Although Brandon's life was cut short, he exhibited tremendous enthusiasm, team spirit, vibrant faith, and a rich heritage of love toward many who considered him a friend. He also made a strong commitment to his academic work and was moving toward college before his death. In the spirit of his life we want to encourage young leaders to accomplish the goals and dreams that Brandon held as important.

To that end, we are happy to announce the Brandon Jackson Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded again to deserving, college-bound students. The final amount of each scholarship will be determined by funds raised through donations, sponsorships and the Brandon Jackson Scholarship and Basketball Classic.

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Initial** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Age:** _____ **Sex:** ☐ Male ☐ Female

Home Phone: (_____) _____ **Cell Phone:** (_____) _____

Email: _____

Name of Graduating High School: _____

Name of College You Will Be Attending: _____

Address of College: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Certification

I certify that I have provided complete and accurate responses to the items on this application. I further certify that all documents submitted to support this application are authentic, unaltered records that pertain to me. I understand that misrepresentation may be cause for denial or cancellation of scholarship offered.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Award Criteria:

Academic:

- Minimum 2.5 GPA (copy of high school transcript required)
- Proof of enrollment in a 2 or 4-year college (funds will be distributed once enrollment is verified).

Financial Need: (Copy of the following required)

- 2024 tax return exhibiting gross family income (based on average household income of \$100,000 or less)
- EFC form (Estimated Family Contribution) from your FAFSA application

We are willing to consider extenuating circumstances other than financial hardship in our evaluation of the needs of the student.

Essay: You must complete an essay within the following guidelines:

- A one to two page typed essay
- Essay must address the following: A personal statement that describes your educational and career goals; **emphasizes any obstacles you have overcome** to this point, **your community involvement**, and includes your hopes for the future.

Letters of Recommendation: You must enclose a minimum of **two** letters of recommendation from significant leaders in your life including: teachers or tutors, mentors, coaches and/or pastors or spiritual leaders. We will also consider a recommendation from someone who has known the student for at least 5 years.

Deadline for application/letters of recommendation is March 27th, 2026. Scholarships will be awarded at the 12th Annual Brandon Jackson Scholarship and Basketball Classic is TBD. Scholarship recipients must be present at award ceremony.

Letter of Recommendation

Name of Teacher/Mentor: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Name of Student: _____

1. How long have you known this candidate? _____

2. Describe the type(s) and extent of service or leadership the candidate has exhibited while in relationship to you, the mentor/coach.

3. Has the student exhibited **any or all** of the following characteristics: seriousness about academic pursuits, pursuit of sports or extracurricular activities, sets goals and accomplishes them, asks for help when needed, arrives on time prepared to work, addresses concerns and asks questions of teachers/mentors as necessary, inspires confidence in others.

4. Please comment on the student's potential strengths and weaknesses in the areas in which you've observed this candidate including academic, life skills, spiritual influence, leadership and/or one who is a clear team leader.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Please mail applications, financial need statements and type-written essay to:

David Williams, Executive Director
Empower U/Brandon Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Post Office Box 5341
Pasadena, California 91107

or email to:

David Williams at: empowerutoexcel@gmail.com