



**South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization**  
**Esther Johnson College Scholarship Program**

**2024 Eligibility Guidelines**

- Applicants must reside within the boundaries of the South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood service area in Chicago, Illinois. **BOUNDARIES:** (1) 71st Street on the north, the Illinois Central Railroad tracks (at Kimbark Avenue) on the east, and South Chicago Avenue from 71st to 75th Streets (angling southeast from Cottage Grove to Woodlawn Avenues) forming the third side of a triangularly shaped community. (2) The “Brookhaven” section includes the area from 71st Street north to 69th Street and from Woodlawn Avenue east to the Illinois Central Railroad tracks. (3) From 69th Street north to the north side of 73rd Street and from the Illinois Central Railroad tracks on the west to Dorchester Avenue on the east (this recent expansion of the Organization boundaries includes a portion of the “New Art” section).
- Applicants must be either currently enrolled in an institution of higher learning accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, **or** must be matriculating to an accredited institution in Fall 2024; **or** enrolled or matriculating to a career/vocational school listed at website of the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (<https://www.accsc.org/Directory/index.aspx>)
- Applicants must have a “C” or better grade point average in their **last 12 semester credit hours** (or equivalent) at the college level, as evidenced by their **most recent official transcript**. Applicants entering their first year of college, must have a “C” or better grade point average in their final (i.e., senior) year of high school coursework, as evidenced by their official high school transcript for their final (i.e., senior) year. **An official transcript must be submitted as part of the application process. An application without an official transcript is incomplete.**
- A record of community service as evidenced by one or more letters from an Area Block Club, Community Organization, School, Business, or Church on that organization’s stationery. Letter(s) should describe the type of service, date(s) performed, and be signed by an officer/principal of the organization confirming the applicant’s service, and include the title/position of that officer/principal. Preference is given for recent community service.
- Two letters of recommendation on official stationery obtained from clergy, business person, teacher, counselor, block club president or community organization president.

**Completed applications and transcripts are due by Friday, June 28, 2024.**



**South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization**  
**Esther Johnson College Scholarship Program**

**2024 APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

Use the checklist below to make sure all required items are included when you submit your scholarship application. No exceptions will be made for missing items. We recommend that you check off each item as you enclose it in your return envelope (or, request your transcript copy). Remember to sign and date and submit this checklist as part of your completed application. Completed applications and transcripts must be received by **Friday, June 28, 2024.**

**Mail applications and transcripts to:**

**South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization**  
**Esther Johnson College Scholarship Program**  
**P.O. Box 198893**  
**Chicago, IL 60619-9893**

**Esther Johnson Scholarship Application Checklist**

- Completed Application Form with essay
- Official Transcript (Unopened)** mailed directly by your trade school/college/university (or if applicable, your high school) reflecting your 12 most recent semester credit hours.
- Letter verifying Community Service (**must be on organization's official stationery**)
- Two Letters of Recommendation (**must be on official stationery**)
- Scholarship Application Checklist, signed and dated (below).

---

**Applicant Signature**

**Date**



South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization  
Esther Johnson College Scholarship Program

**2024 Application Form**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Chicago, IL 606\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of High School Graduation (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: \_\_\_ Trade School \_\_\_ Two Year College \_\_\_ Four Year College/Univ.

Name of Trade School/College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

First Date of Trade School/College/University Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_

Trade School/College/University Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Trade School/College/University City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

**If Fall 2024 will be your first term in trade school college/university, enter your high school grade point averages below; otherwise, enter your trade school/ college/university GPAs.**

Most Recent Semester/Quarterly GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

**To complete your application, request an official copy of your college/university (or high school, if applicable) transcripts to be sent to: South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization, Esther Johnson Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 198893, Chicago, IL 60619-8893.**



**South Oakwood-Brookhaven Neighborhood Organization**

**Esther Johnson College Scholarship Program**

**2024 Application Form – Page 2**

Please list your INTERESTS, HOBBIES and SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

---

---

---

---

Please list your COMMUNITY SERVICE/CIVIC INVOLVEMENT activities:

---

---

---

---

Provide a brief statement outlining your future goals:

---

---

---

---

**ESSAY QUESTION:** On a separate sheet, in 1000 words, please answer the following question in essay format. Your essay should be typed and double-spaced.

**Question:**

**“Voting is important ... Explain to a friend why voting is important to the/our future.”**