



KEYS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

About the Organization:

Knowledge to Enable Your Success Inc. is a nonprofit organization established and incorporated in Barbados to benefit the youth of Barbados by promoting positive values through programmes that are designed to encourage mental, spiritual and educational growth. Our programmes aim not only to provide youth with the KEYS to enable them to improve their socioeconomic status, but more importantly to empower them to become the next generation of leaders.

The Scholarship Programme:

Knowledge to Enable Your Success Inc. established the scholarship programme to provide support to Caribbean students throughout their primary, secondary and tertiary education. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender or disability.

The Award:

The **Leroy and Marcene Straker Educational Scholarship Fund** was established by Leroy and Marcene Straker, a Barbadian couple who now reside in the USA. Both Leroy and Marcene grew up in St. Joseph, in single parent households and therefore know first-hand the struggle of a parent trying to provide their children with the basic necessities for a successful school year. The Strakers also know how it feels to be that student, sitting in class without the necessary tools or materials. They remember their parents having to borrow funds just to make ends meet.

Education has been a driving factor and the key to many of the successes that Leroy and Marcene have experienced. The opportunity to excel did not come easily for them, however. Thus, they feel blessed to be able to provide this opportunity to a deserving child, so that they can have a chance at success and can fully concentrate on learning, without the added pressure of not being fully equipped for the school year ahead.

The Strakers hope that this scholarship will provide a child with a better chance to gain the foundation that will propel them to a brighter future and ease the burden of a parent, knowing that their child is now on a more level playing field, ready to set goals and conquer them.

Eligibility:

Applicants to the Leroy and Marcene Straker Educational Scholarship must meet the following requirements:

- be a primary school student
- reside in St. Joseph parish
- come from a single parent household
- have financial need

Required Essay:

- write a 1–2-page essay on the following topic: *What is a leader and how does he/she impact their community?*
- essay may be handwritten or typed. Handwritten essays must be neat and legible.

Required Documentation:

As part of your application, you must submit:

- a completed Leroy and Marcene Straker Educational Scholarship application form
- a copy of a current, report card. Report card must display student name, school name and grades
- a recommendation letter from your class teacher or principal, church or community leader
- essay response

Your application is **not** considered complete unless all required documents are submitted.

Award:

If selected as a recipient, the student will receive a one-time award of \$500 and a certificate. The award may only be used for school related expenses.

Selection of Recipient:

Scholarship recipient is selected on the basis of completed application form, essay response, academic record, demonstrated leadership or participation in school and/or community activities, an outside appraisal (reference) and financial need. Selection of recipient is made jointly by Knowledge to Enable Your Success Inc. and the benefactors of the award. All applicants agree to accept the decision as final.

Scholarship Schedule:

Application period opens June 2026

Application Deadline - Submitted by August 23, 2026

Scholarship Award Recipient announced - August 27, 2026

Scholarship Award distributed - Early September 2026

Notification:

Award winners will be notified on August 27, 2026. Not all applicants to the scholarship will be selected as recipients.

Payment of Scholarship Award:

Knowledge to Enable Your Success Inc. processes scholarship payments on behalf of the benefactors of the award. This scholarship award is disbursed in cash or in-kind payment.



Leroy and Marcene Straker Educational Scholarship

2026 STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

(To be completed by student – please print clearly or type)

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

2. SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Primary School: _____

Recommender's Name: _____

Recommender's Email Address: _____

Title: _____

3. PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Telephone number: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

LIST ACTIVITIES:

LIST COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

SCHOLARSHIP CHECKLIST:

- Completed application form
- Essay
- Report Card
- Recommendation letter

Submit your completed scholarship application packet via the website or email it to Programme Director, Doreen King at YOURMASTERKEYS@GMAIL.COM and include in your subject line "Leroy and Marcene Straker Educational Scholarship Application -"Your Last Name, Your First Name".