



## Chicago Urban League Scholarship 2009-2010 Application

Dear Applicant:

Chicago Urban League President and CEO Cheryle R. Jackson is pleased to announce the opportunity for you to apply for a scholarship to support achievement of your post-secondary educational goals.

Since its inception in 1916, the Chicago Urban League (CUL) has been committed to improving the quality of life for people of color and the poor through advocacy efforts, coalition building and direct services. The CUL Scholarship Program includes awards funded by various donors in order to support students needing financial assistance to begin, continue and complete their post-secondary education. Unless specified by the funder, scholarships are not renewable and are only applicable to one school year. A unique aspect of the program is assistance in the applicant review and awardee selection process by members of the CUL Education Advisory Committee's Scholarship Program Committee, who are professionals in the fields of education, business, civic leadership and labor.

### Who is eligible?

To qualify for a Chicago Urban League scholarship, you must:

- ✓ Be an Illinois resident
- ✓ Possess a minimum cumulative GPA of **2.5** (on a 4.0 scale) for the Whitney M. Young Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund
- ✓ Possess a minimum cumulative GPA of **3.0** for the Gwendolyn and John W. Rogers Scholarship Fund and Mercedes-Benz Scholarship
- ✓ Meet student status requirements for specific awards:
  - enrolled as a full-time, undergraduate student in a degree-granting program **or**
  - expecting to graduate this year from high school and enroll in a full-time undergraduate degree-granting program **or**
  - completing a two-year college program and expecting to enroll in a degree-granting program at a four-year institution
- ✓ Demonstrate financial need

### How are awardees selected?

- First, the Scholarship Program Committee evaluates applicant eligibility based on financial need, academic achievement and funder focus. In the case of equivalent academic achievement, students with the greatest financial need are given priority. Financial need is determined by the Student Aid Report (SAR), which is provided 3-6 weeks after filing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and includes the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculation.
- Second, eligible applicants are interviewed in person by teams of 2-3 Scholarship Program Committee members.
- Third, the full Scholarship Program Committee reviews interview team recommendations and makes final award recommendations to the CUL Education Director.

## **What scholarships are available?**

The Chicago Urban League offers the following scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year:

### **Whitney M. Young Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund**

The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1970 as a tribute to the former executive director of the National Urban League. Each year this fund is supported by the annual contributions of the Woman's Board of the Chicago Urban League, as well as the generous contributions from our corporate partners. **This fund provides financial assistance for students pursuing undergraduate degrees at four-year colleges or universities. Applicants may be either enrolled as full-time undergraduate students in degree-granting programs or high school students expecting to graduate this year.**

Ten one-year scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded annually.

### **Gwendolyn and John W. Rogers Scholarship Fund**

The Gwendolyn and John W. Rogers Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 by Judge John W. and Dr. Gwendolyn Rogers. **This fund provides financial assistance for students pursuing undergraduate degrees at four-year colleges or universities. Applicants may be either enrolled as full-time undergraduate students in degree-granting programs or high school students expecting to graduate this year.** Applicants must possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Five one-year scholarships of \$2,500 each will be awarded.

### **Mercedes-Benz Scholarship**

Mercedes-Benz is a brand built on aspiration and excellence. It is our desire to match our resources with your potential, and, in the process, lay the groundwork for strong, dynamic and thoughtful leadership in the next generation. Through a partnership with the Chicago Urban League established in 1991, Mercedes-Benz provides four awards of \$1,000 per year for four years (\$4,000 per student). Applicants must possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Four awards of \$1,000 per year for four years (\$4,000 per student) are provided.

## **What is the application process?**

To be considered for a Chicago Urban League scholarship award, you must provide the following items:

- ✓ Completed scholarship application
- ✓ One Picture
- ✓ One typed essay
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation (non-family)
- ✓ Official transcript of grades (most recent high school transcript for seniors or college transcript for post-secondary students) **sent directly to CUL by the school**
- ✓ Student Aid Report (SAR)
- ✓ Proof of current enrollment or acceptance in a college/university
- ✓ Proof of financial status/income (most recent tax returns or documentation of SSI, public aid, or unemployment)

## **What is the application and selection timeline?**

The following are key dates for the Chicago Urban League Scholarship Program:

***March 20, 2009:***

**Deadline for all application materials**

***April 30, 2009:***

**Completion of application pre-review by Scholarship Program Committee and notification of interviewees and non-interviewees**

***May 31, 2009:***

**Interviews completed**

***June 15, 2009:***

**Awards approved**

## **How will I be notified about whether or not I am selected to receive an award?**

All applicants who are interviewed will be notified about the Chicago Urban League's decision regarding a scholarship award in writing no later than June 30, 2009.

***Note: Salaried employees of the Chicago Urban League, CUL scholarship sponsors and members of the immediate family of any such persons are not eligible to apply to the program. The term "immediate family" includes spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, and "in-laws," by current or past marriage(s), remarriage(s), adoption, co-habitation or other family extension.***



Chicago Urban League Scholarship
2009-2010 Application

Check the scholarship for which you are applying:

John & Gwen Rogers Scholarship

Whitney M. Young, Jr.

Mercedes-Benz

Please Type or Print:

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

Permanent Home Address:

City: State: Zip:

Permanent Telephone Number: Alternate Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth:

U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident: Yes No SS#

Racial/Ethnic Background (for reporting purposes only):

II. YOUR EDUCATION

High School:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

High School graduation date: Month:/Year:

Do you hold a GED certificate? Yes (Month:/Year) No

Name the college/university you attend or plan to attend:

Address: (City/State)

Course of Study (Major):

Are you currently enrolled as a full-time college/university student? Yes No

Current Grade Level: What is your expected date/year of graduation?

Estimated cost of post-secondary education per year:

Have you made a decision about your future career interest or occupation? Yes No

If Yes, specify:

**III. YOUR SCHOOL COURSES, ACTIVITIES, AND EXPERIENCES**

List Advanced Placement (AP), honors courses, and internships that are related to your academic or career interest.

Course or Program	Dates Attended	Grade Earned

List school and community activities in which you have participated, such as varsity and club sports, scouting, church groups, and student government. Include memberships in Honor Society, Beta Club, and volunteer activities.

Activity	Offices Held	Dates of Participation

List jobs you have held in the past three years.

Job or Kind of Work	Employer	Year of School	Date(s) of Employment	Hours Per Week

List any honors, awards, and/or special recognition you have received over the last year.

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**IV. YOUR FAMILY**

Enter complete information about your family. If you do not live with both parents, enter the name of the parent or guardian with whom you live.

	Father/Male Guardian	Mother/Female Guardian
Name		
Occupation/Title		
Employer		

**Siblings:** Number of Brothers:    Age(s):                      Number of Sisters:    Age(s)

Are there aspects of your family life or personal circumstances you would like to share with the Selection Committee?

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**V. ESSAY QUESTIONS**

Identify an issue of concern within your school or community. If given the opportunity, how would you resolve this issue? Prepare a one-page typed statement on a separate sheet of paper and attach to your application.

**VI. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Two statements of recommendation are required to support your application. Scholarship applicants should obtain one statement from an instructor or school official who is familiar with your academic work. The other recommendation should be from an adult (non-relative) who can write about your community service work and/or give a personal reference. Recommendations must be typed and limited to one page. Attach recommendations to your application.

**VII. AFFILIATION**

Are you active in a Chicago Urban League program or initiative? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please check the appropriate activity or activities below:

- Youth Celebration Day
- Youth Investment/Entrepreneur Project (YIEP)
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Goal Power
- Teen REACH Program

**APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE**

Please review your responses and you sign your name below. Your signature will confirm that the information provided is accurate and true and you authorize your school to release the information requested on the separate Certification by School Official form. If any information you have provided is false, the Chicago Urban League reserves the right to disqualify your application.

**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this completed application form, essay question response(s) and recommendations to the address below. All application materials must be postmarked by March 20, 2009.

**Chicago Urban League Scholarship Program  
Education Department  
ATTN: Leslie Drish, Education Director  
4510 S. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60653**

For additional information contact the Chicago Urban League Education Department by phone at (773) 451-3565, by e-mail at [kraglin@cul-chicago.org](mailto:kraglin@cul-chicago.org) or visit the Chicago Urban League website at <http://www.thechicagourbanleague.org>.



**Chicago Urban League Scholarship  
2009-2010 CERTIFICATION BY SCHOOL OFFICIAL**

**STUDENT INFORMATION:**

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School or College: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATION BY SCHOOL OFFICIAL (Complete and send directly to Chicago Urban League in envelope provided.)**

Please provide the data requested below, and attach an **official transcript of grades** to this questionnaire.

**High School Students Only:**

SAT I Test Date \_\_\_\_\_ SAT I Scores: Verbal \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Test Date \_\_\_\_\_ Composite Score \_\_\_\_\_

Is the student a high school senior? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Year

Rank in Class \_\_\_\_\_ Class Size \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_

**College Students Only:**

Enrollment Date \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that the information above is accurate and that an official transcript for the student is attached.**

Name of School Official \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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