



## IMC MLK Scholarship Fund Program Guidelines

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The Interdenominational Ministers' Conference (IMC) of Greater Harrisburg was founded in the late 50's by a group of Ministers lead by Reverend Franklin L. Henley. In addition to the need for fellowship among the brotherhood, the group of ministers also wanted to impact the city of Harrisburg in a positive way and provide leadership for issues confronting the community. A guiding mission statement was drafted to define the group's purpose:

*"Inasmuch as the equality of humankind, justice, emancipation and liberation from oppression are real and moral issues which merit the full attention of any and every proponent of the Christian faith, there necessitates the existence of an organization of concerned clergy dedicated to initiating, supporting, and upholding sound and sincere efforts toward the achievement of full human dignity as well as promoting every opportunity for the realization of all of humanity's potential toward constructive productivity under God."*

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

The purpose of the IMC MLK scholarship is to provide financial assistance for college students who are pursuing academic achievement while also helping to make a positive change in their community. The spirit of MLK is service to others, which is why MLK Day is also known as a day of service.

The IMC MLK scholarship will be awarded to students from the community who exemplify service and contribution to uplifting those around them.

**NOTE: Scholarship funds will be awarded to the student upon evidence of registration in an accredited higher educational institution.**

### ***Criteria and eligibility***

1. Applicant must be registered and enrolled in a college, university, or higher educational institution.
2. Applicant must demonstrate community involvement, academic achievement, and educational enrollment.
3. All applicants must complete the scholarship application and return it before the deadline.
4. Applicants must submit a 250–500-word essay detailing their future goals and how they will give back to their community.
5. Applicants must provide two community references, including a teacher, community advocate, Pastor, or a former or current employer.

### ***General Instructions***

1. The deadline for scholarship applications is December.
2. Refer to the application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e., reference forms, evidence of GPA, etc.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. If any question does not apply to you in this application, please put N/A in the space.
4. Type and print legibly. Illegible applications will not be considered.
5. You will be notified regarding the status of your application.

### ***Application Process:***

Applicant must submit the following items:

1. Completed application form (if handwritten, please print legibly)
2. Letter of application addressed to the Scholarship Committee. The letter should contain a brief explanation about yourself and your college plans (college/university, intended major, and anticipated start date). The letter should not exceed one (1) page.
3. Two (2) letters of recommendation from a choice of high school teachers, administrators, counselors, employers, or an individual with significant knowledge of the applicant's experience and involvement.
4. Personal Essay. Essay must be at least 1-2 typed pages, double-spaced, 12 pt / Times New Roman font. The essay shall contain no grammatical errors.
5. In addition to the above items, the applicant must demonstrate some community involvement, which includes a church, a civic organization, or a non-profit organization.

*The deadline* for the application is **December**. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

**Interdenominational Ministers' Conference of Greater Harrisburg**

**PO Box 60221**

**Harrisburg, PA 17106**

**Email: [imc@imcofgreaterharrisburg.org](mailto:imc@imcofgreaterharrisburg.org)**

## Application

Proof of acceptance or current student enrollment from the above school is **required prior to funds being released to the college or university.**

|     |                                                                                                           |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 7.  | I will be entering the above-mentioned school as a: (Circle one)                                          |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|     | Freshman                                                                                                  |  | Sophomore |  | Junior            |                   | Senior                               |                                                  |
| 8.  | Name & address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): Use reverse side of application if you need more space. |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|     | Name (s) _____                                                                                            |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|     | Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____                                                         |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|     | Home phone of parents or legal guardians: _____                                                           |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
| 9.  | Name and city of other high schools attended:                                                             |  |           |  |                   |                   | Number of years attended:            |                                                  |
| 10. | List the name of any college you have attended.                                                           |  |           |  | Year<br>Beg<br>an | Year<br>End<br>ed | Year<br>Graduated<br>(If applicable) | Type of<br>Degree<br>Received<br>(If applicable) |
|     | A.                                                                                                        |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|     | B.                                                                                                        |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |
|     | C.                                                                                                        |  |           |  |                   |                   |                                      |                                                  |



|     |                                                                                                           |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. | List your academic honors, awards, and membership activities academically or in a community organization. |
|     |                                                                                                           |
| 12. | List your community service activities, hobbies, outside interests, and extracurricular activities.       |
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|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13. | <p><b>Personal Essay</b><br/> Please answer the following question:<br/> <b>What are your educational and professional goals and objectives?</b><br/> <b>How will your college experience help you to serve your community?</b><br/> Your essay should be between 250-500 words, typed, double-spaced, and 12 pt / Time New Roman font. Please ensure your essay contains no grammatical errors.</p> |
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|     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |    |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14. | <p>A. The following items must be attached to this application in order for the application to qualify to be reviewed by the scholarship committee.<br/> B. Your application will not be considered if these items are not attached to this application. (No exceptions.)<br/> C. Circle "YES" or "NO" to be sure you have attached each item as required.</p> |    |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|     | YES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | NO | <b>Completed application.</b> All questions are answered completely.                                                                                                       |
|     | YES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | NO | <b>Letter to Scholarship Committee.</b> Not exceeding one (1) page. Must be typed.                                                                                         |
|     | YES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | NO | <b>Two (2) Letters of Recommendation.</b>                                                                                                                                  |
|     | YES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | NO | <b>Proof of college acceptance or current student enrollment.</b> A copy of your college acceptance letter is required for receipt of funds.                               |
|     | YES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | NO | <b>Personal Essay.</b> Must be at least 250-500 words, typed, double-spaced, and 12 pt / Time New Roman font. Please ensure your essay contains no grammatical errors.     |
|     | YES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | NO | <b>Community service details.</b> Must be documented in the form of a letter on official letterhead from the agency the applicant completed their community service hours. |

## STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

I hereby affirm that all the above-stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the IMC's scholarship program.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship recipient, according to the IMC/MLK Scholarship policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Signature of scholarship applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of applicant's guardian/ parent (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



***“Everybody can be great because anyone can serve” Dr Martin Luther King Jr.***

## Sample Letter of Application for Scholarship

*This is a suggested format for a “letter of application”. Please revise as needed for your own purposes.*

Your address  
City, State, Zip code

Date

Dear Scholarship Committee (or use the name of the person you are addressing)

### **First paragraph – identify what you are applying for**

I am applying for (name of scholarship) because (your reason for applying).

### **Second paragraph (or combine with first paragraph) – explain your goals**

I want to pursue a degree in (career) because (describe your interests and goals).

**Third paragraph – talk about yourself, including what the scholarship committee wants to know about you** Tell about your important life experiences, your activities in school, your community or church, and what you have learned from these experiences. Emphasize any responsibilities you have had or awards you received. Answer any questions the scholarship committee wants to know about you.

### **Fourth paragraph – summarize how you have met their requirements**

I have met all the qualifications and have included (list items, if any, you are attaching to back up what you have referred to in your application). Add any other information they have requested, such as names of references and contact information.

Your name  
Contact Information

*“Everybody can be great because anyone can serve” Dr Martin Luther King Jr.*