MBACC Scholarship - *presented by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation*

Background: The Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce has served the Grand Strand and its business community with excellence for more than 85 years. The Chamber's mission is to promote, protect and improve the Myrtle Beach area and its business community. The Chamber, and its members, recognize the value of higher education as an essential component to individual and community success.

Purpose: To provide scholarships to deserving Myrtle Beach area graduating seniors planning to enroll in higher education within eight (8) months upon graduation from high school.

Award: A one-time scholarship per awardee, in an amount to be determined by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation Board of Directors, will be paid directly to the recipient(s) for the intended purpose of offsetting first-year expenses related to higher education.

Applicants: All eligible students are encouraged to apply. MBACC Scholarship application is available on school and chamber websites.

Applicants must meet each of the following requirements:

- Applicant must be a legal resident of the United States.
- Applicant must be a student in good standing at selected high schools.
- Applicant must be a graduating high school senior during the school year of the award.
- Applicant must be planning to attend an accredited institution of higher learning upon graduation from high school. Students planning to attend universities, colleges, seminaries, technical colleges and community colleges are all encouraged to apply.
- Applicants must be planning to enroll in a post-secondary program of study that will result in a Bachelor's or Associate degree, skilled trade certification or equivalent.

Employees of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, their immediate families and households, as well as those of the selection committee members and the Foundation's Board of Directors, are not eligible for scholarships offered by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation.

Myrtle Beach Area CHAMBER of COMMERCE

2025 MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship Application

Selection Criteria: One recipient from each high school listed below who best demonstrates consistently superior achievement inside and outside the classroom will be selected. Recipients will demonstrate academic aptitude and potential for success beyond high school. Recipients will exhibit accomplishment inside and outside the classroom, as well as qualities that are essential to professional success, including honesty, integrity, professionalism, good citizenship, civic mindedness, charity and a strong work ethic.

Academy for Arts, Science, and Technology
Academy for Technology & Academics
Aynor High School
Carolina Forest High School
Conway High School
Early College High School
Green Sea Floyds High School
HCS Scholars Academy
Loris High School
Myrtle Beach High School
North Myrtle Beach High School
Socastee High School
St. James High School
Waccamaw High School

Process: All eligible students are encouraged to apply. Applications will be submitted to the guidance counselor. The school principal or designee will review all applications and forward qualified applications, with recommendations, to the committee appointed by the MBACC Educational Foundation. The committee will select one or more recipients. The decision of the committee is final. The committee may select an alternate recipient who will receive a scholarship in lieu of the awardee if he/she fails to meet all requirements.

Deadline: **Students must submit applications to their school Guidance Counselors or Administration to verify that all criteria have been met as stated on page 1 of this application. All applications meeting the requirements must be received by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce no later than Friday, January 17, 2025,** for consideration. Applications submitted after this date will not be accepted.

Mail applications to:

MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship
ATTN: Rebecca Edgar
PO Box 2115
Myrtle Beach SC 29578
Or email pdf to Rebecca.Edgar@visitmyrtlebeach.com

Application must be completed by student … please print in black ink.

Name First: **Nadiya** Last: **Patel** High School: **Myrtle Beach High School**

Home Address: **39 Chapin Circle**

City, State, Zip: **Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572**

Email: **nadiyaspatel0423@gmail.com** Phone: **(843) 360 - 5536**

Name of Father/Guardian: **Sachin Patel**

Name of Mother/Guardian: **Vaishali Patel**

The Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation may use the name, photographs, slides, videos, illustrations, documents or other information of the student-applicant below for publicity related to the selection and award of a scholarship. The Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation reserves all rights to publicize the awards made to the general public, including media, educational institutions and related parties.

Applicants seeking consideration for a scholarship agree to the following:

- I give my permission to the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber Educational Foundation and/or its agents and news media to use the name, photographs, slides, videos, illustrations, documents or other information submitted as a part of the application. I authorize their use without inspecting or approving the finished product or its specific use.
- I acknowledge and understand the MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship is a one-time award and is not transferable.
- I acknowledge and understand the MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship cannot be deferred beyond the year in which it is awarded.
- I have received the award application and related details, including the application requirements and selection criteria.
- I am eligible for the MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship.
- If I receive a MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship, I agree to use the proceeds to offset expenses directly related to my post-secondary education.
- If I receive a MBACC Educational Foundation Scholarship, I agree to complete a W-9 by the determined deadline.

Student Name: (print) **Nadiya Patel**

Student Signature: **__Nadiya Patel__** Date: **_12/8/2025_**

Parent/Guardian Signature: **_Sachin Patel__**Date: **_12/8/2025**

Education

High School: __**Myrtle Beach High School**

Current GPA: __**5.047**__ Att ed: ***State of South Carolina Standard High School Transcript***

Highest Cumulative ACT or SAT Score (if applicable): __**1280**_

Where do you plan to attend Post-Secondary Education: __**University of South Carolina Honor College**_

What Field of Study do you plan to pursue: **Biological Sciences**

Have you applied for College Admission? _**Yes**__If yes, have you been accepted? _**Yes**

During high school, which subject(s) have had the greatest impact upon you and why?

During high school, I strongly believe that AP Psychology and AP Capstone/Seminar had the greatest impact upon myself. Though there were both extremely rigorous and difficult courses they taught me a lot about the subject, as well as myself. AP Psychology taught me about why we do certain things. This class allowed me to understand why different people act in different ways. I learned how everyone's brain works differently and people follow through with different thought processes, causing them to do different things. After taking this class, I have become more aware and accepting of people that may not be all that similar to me. AP Psychology showed me truly how different everyone is and how you can form connections with different people in many different ways. As for AP Capstone and Seminar, the two-year long course taught me so many skills that I know I will carry with me all through my college career and the rest of my life. After completing over 4 tedious research projects, I learned how to research and find reliable information and sources, write an extremely detailed research paper, and how to make connections between sources. The first year of this class was to construct a research essay on prior research done in the past. My big research project for year one of the course was titled "Breaking Barriers Through The Creation Of Barbie". Now this may sound silly, but I learned that the creation of the Barbie dolls changed lives for many women. By just looking at the doll you wouldn't be able to tell how much thought went into it and why it was created, though after researching I learned the purpose of the doll. During year 2, we

spent the entirety of the year conducting our own research. I decided to study how social media usage leads to academic procrastination. For this study I collected data from students at Coastal Carolina University and students from local high schools to form my overall conclusion. This project taught me how important skill research is and I know that I will definitely be using the researching skills I learned in college to help through my biology major.

During high school, which teacher(s) have had the greatest impact upon you and why?

During high school, I feel that Mrs. Moreno has had the greatest impact upon me. For my senior year of high school, I chose to take Teacher Cadet. Mrs Moreno happened to be the teacher for this class. She is one of those teachers that you could talk to about if you were ever in a situation where you needed help or advice. She taught me how to work through difficult situations where I have felt uncomfortable or unknowing what to do. I vividly remember coming to her after my first day of teacher cadet because I had a guilty feeling of barely interacting with the kids because I was unsure how. She explained to me how this was extremely normal, even for teachers that had been teaching for years. She gave me advice on how to try and connect with the students even though we had our differences. I took her advice and after a few days, I formed bonds and connections with students. Thanks to Mrs Moreno, I now can apply this lesson that she taught me to real-life situations when I meet new people, helping me advance further in my future career.

Student Information

Please list extracurricular activities (student government, ROTC, sports, publications, school-sponsored community service programs, student-faculty committees, arts, music, etc.) while attending high school, denoting the year/grade of activity. List in descending order of significance:

- DECA
    - Position: VP of Career Development (2024-25) and VP of Leadership (2025-26)
    - Grades: 10,11,12
- BETA club
    - Postion: Treasurers (2025-26)

    - Grades: 10, 11, 12
- Girls Varsity Tennis
    - Position: Senior Co-Captain (2025)
    - Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
- Student Government
    - Postion: Class representative (2022-25)
    - Grades: 9, 10, 11

Please list non-school, non-work public service and community activities (homeless services, environmental protection/ conservation, advocacy activities, work with religious organizations, etc.) during your high school years. Do not report items listed previously. List in descending order of significance:

- Collecting donations for the local BackPack Buddies
- IMPACT (youth group organization)
- Myrtle Beach Marathon Volunteer
- Angel Tree Donations

Please list Honors/Awards, scholarships, publications, or special recognition you have received during your high school years (can be unrelated to high school):

- National Honors Society
- Mu Alpha Theta
- National English Honors Society
- Rho Kappa
- AP Scholar with Honor
- AP Capstone Diploma
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Please list your paid work experience, including part-time or summer jobs (include employer and dates of work):

What do you want the committee to know about you that might explain why you should be awarded this scholarship? (e.g., financial need, first student in the family to attend college, etc.)

Students are encouraged (but not required) to submit a 1-page, typed, single-spaced paper covering one of the following topics. This exercise will provide an opportunity for each applicant to demonstrate critical thinking skills and personal commitment to their future endeavors. If you choose to submit a paper, you may pick from one of these topics:

- What career do you intend to pursue and why?
- **Beyond the textbooks and class materials, what lesson(s) have you learned in high school that will help you be successful in the future?**
- What would you like to see happen in/to your community to improve its future?
- What is the most pressing issue facing your community or your generation, and what needs to be done to resolve this issue?

Include your paper with your completed application. While this exercise is not a requirement, it is advantageous for applicants to submit a paper, as this will help familiarize the selection committee with the student's individual perspective.

Beyond the textbooks and class materials, what lesson(s) have you learned in high school that will help you be successful in the future?

I have always sought to understand what was happening around me. This curiosity began to push me to think more deeply about understanding the world and the people around me, especially during significant changes in life, such as the transition to a different school. Moving from my first elementary school, to a new, much more diverse cluster of schools opened my eyes to how differently people experience a sense of education and belonging. What I once thought of as a simple change transformed into a lesson of perspective.

The elementary school that I attended consisted of an extremely close-knit community, but it lacked a sense of diversity. Most of my peers looked alike, spoke the same languages, shared similar traditions, and also came from similar neighborhoods. There was never a time when I felt uncomfortable, but there may have been times when I may have felt too comfortable. During this time, I never experienced a proper, diverse environment where people came from various backgrounds. When my family moved across the city at the end of Fifth grade, everything changed. My new middle school and later high school were known as the "melting pot" of the town. The schools were filled with people from various backgrounds, countries, languages, and cultures. This made me realize that this difference didn't just surround me; I was beginning to learn through it, as well as with it.

This diverse community brought me to the realization that education becomes much richer and more profound when your peers can bring their different perspectives to the classroom. This made me wonder, "What does this diversity look like at the earlier stages of learning, such as elementary school?" This curiosity led me to the beginning of my senior year, where I started my Teacher Cadet field experience at a local elementary school. From the moment I stepped into the building, I noticed how different this school was from the elementary school I had attended. As I walked the halls leading to my classroom, I saw the various words written in different languages on the walls. When I arrived at my classroom, I noticed students from different backgrounds. Some of the students spoke English, some spoke Spanish, while others spoke a language that I did not recognize. The energy of the class could be described as vibrant; every student brought their own unique perspective to the classroom. At first, I felt out of place, because I didn't know how to connect with the students through our different experiences. Over the course of a few days, I slowly gained momentum and eventually became more

comfortable in the classroom environment. Some students were hesitant to express themselves in English, while others fully embraced their culture and were eager to share aspects of it with me. Instead of shying away from the parts of their culture that I didn't understand, I was curious about learning more, so I began to ask questions. As the students explained to me why they celebrate specific holidays and how to correctly pronounce their names, we built a feeling of trust and connection.

Through my field experience, I gained insight into what inclusive education entails. Adapting lessons to meet different learning needs, while ensuring every student feels at home in the classroom. In my field experience classroom, this was done by having words written in other languages around the school. This reminded me that learning is not just by the book, but it's also about experiencing new perspectives and cultures that can ultimately shape who we are and how we act. This experience taught me that diversity is something to understand. Cultural awareness is something that can enhance a student's sense of value and well-being. I believe that if I had learned in an environment similar to that of my cadet students, I would be a more confident and open student, just like my students.