

**Scholarship Administrative Procedures**  
**Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,**  
**Inc.**  
**2025-2026**

<b>Purpose &amp; Overview</b>	Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. scholarships are designed to assist African American students who are currently matriculating through accredited colleges/universities throughout the United States (see Scholarship Award Details).
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Be an African American High School Senior or College Freshman previously awarded the 2024-2025 Catherine B. Middleton Award in their senior high school year). Students must be enrolled and pursuing an Associate or Bachelor’s Degree at an accredited college/university.</p> <p>Submit a complete application package by the stated deadline. Application will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Personal Essay/Statement: 400 (max) Word narrative explaining your personal goals over the next 4-5 years, community service aspirations and why you should be considered for this scholarship. Ensure proper grammar throughout the statement/narrative.</li> <li>● Financial Need Form</li> <li>● Official High School or College Transcript (must include your qualifying Grade Point Average (GPA).</li> <li>● Two Letters of Reference (One from High School Teacher or College Professor and One from a member of Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.</li> <li>● Proof of Acceptance to at least one (1) accredited college/university.</li> </ul> <p>Complete application package must be received electronically by <b>11:59 pm</b> on deadline date or must be post marked <b>3</b> days prior to the deadline date.</p>

<p><b>Application Process</b></p>	<p>Scholarship Application will go live online on or before March 1, annually.</p> <p>All applicants must complete and submit the official scholarship application package as per eligibility criteria and deadlines or applicants will be disqualified from the process. [No Exceptions will be made.]</p>
<p><b>Selection Process</b></p>	<p>Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (DAC) selection process ensures that all applicants are evaluated fairly and consistently in alignment with the Chapter’s mission, values and scholarship criteria. DAC promotes transparency, integrity and equity in identifying deserving recipients who demonstrate academic achievement, leadership, community service and commitment to DAC ideals.</p> <p>The Scholarship Selection Process will be conducted annually and managed by the Scholarship Committee, under the oversight of the Chapter President and Scholarship Chairs. The process includes 1) application review, 2) scoring using a standardized rubric, 3) deliberation, 4) final approval and 5) recipient notification.</p>
<p><b>Scholarship Award Details</b></p>	<p>The Dover Alumnae Chapter (DAC), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. has awarded over \$200,000 in scholarship. Scholarships are for one year and <u>may be</u> eligible for renewal up to four (4) years. However, this determination will be made at the beginning of each Chapter year based on the scholarship allocated budget. This year (2025-2026), DAC will offer one scholarship award with three (3) select categories as follows:</p> <p><b>The Catherine B. Middleton Scholarship</b></p> <p><b>This scholarship is named in honor of the daughter of founder Jimmie Bugg Middleton, who was a member of our chapter. It is awarded to high school seniors in Kent County, Delaware who are pursuing a degree at an accredited two or four-year college or university.</b></p> <p><b>Category 1: Academic Excellence &amp; Leadership</b></p>

	<p>This category is for students who demonstrate academic performance and intentional leadership in their school and/or community.</p> <p><b><u>Eligibility Criteria:</u></b></p> <p><b>GPA 3.5 – 4.0</b></p> <p><b>Enrollment:</b> Must be a high school senior graduating in May or June of the academic year.</p> <p><b>Academic Rigor:</b> Demonstrated participation in advanced coursework (e.g. Honors, AP), <b>OR</b> evidence of academic distinction (awards, competitions, research projects).</p> <p><b>School Standing:</b> Must be in good academic and behavioral standing with no major disciplinary infractions.</p> <p><b>Leadership:</b> Participation in at least one academic club, organization, or leadership role preferred but not required.</p> <p><b>Required Documents:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official or unofficial transcript</li> <li>• One recommendation letter from a teacher or academic advisor</li> <li>• Personal essay (maximum 400 words) focused on academic goals, achievements, or future plans</li> </ul> <p><b>Category 2: Community Service &amp; Civic Engagement</b></p> <p><b>Eligibility Criteria</b></p> <p><b>GPA: 3.0 – 3.4</b></p> <p><b>Enrollment:</b> Must be a high school senior graduating in May or June of the academic year.</p> <p><b>Service Hours:</b> Documented community service or civic engagement hours within the past 2–3 years during high school.</p> <p><b>Type of Engagement:</b> Service may include volunteer work, peer mentoring, advocacy, organizing community events, faith-based outreach, tutoring, or civic activism.</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Must demonstrate meaningful contribution to the community — depth of involvement weighed more heavily than the number of hours.</p> <p><b>Leadership:</b> Preference given to students who initiated, led, or expanded a service activity or project.</p> <p><b>Required Documents:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of service hours (signed logs or verification letters)</li> <li>• One recommendation from a community organization, supervisor or pastor</li> </ul>
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- Personal essay (maximum 400 words) describing a challenge you overcame and how it shaped your growth and goals.

**Category 3: Financial Need-Based**

**Eligibility Criteria**

**GPA: 2.0 to 2.9**

**Enrollment:** Must be a high school senior graduating in May or June of the academic year. Students are planning to enroll in a two-year or four-year accredited college, university, or vocational program.

**Demonstrated Financial Need:**

- Submission of **FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR)** or **equivalent financial documentation**
- Household income below a specific threshold (e.g., 200% of the federal poverty level) OR explanation of financial hardship (family responsibilities, medical concerns, housing instability, etc.)

**Special Consideration:** Students who are first-generation college applicants, come from underserved communities, or face economic or personal barriers to higher education.

**Behavioral Standing:** Must be in good standing at school with no major disciplinary issues.

**Required Documents:**

- FAFSA SAR or income verification
- Personal essay (maximum 400 word) describing your long-term goals and how this scholarship will support your educational journey

The amount of the scholarships are determined by the total of the DAC scholarship fund on an annual basis.

Scholarship application packages can be completed using the QR Code below and submitted electronically by the above deadline date.

-Or-

Mail completed applications to:  
Scholarship Committee  
Dover Alumnae Chapter

	<p>Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  P.O. Box 636  Dover, DE 19903</p>
<p><b>Terms &amp; Conditions</b></p>	<p>The scholarships are not automatically renewable. The Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will announce annually, at their discretion, if a scholarship award will be eligible to renew. The amount of the scholarships are determined by the total of the DAC scholarship fund on an annual basis.</p> <p>A scholarship award can be revoked at the Chapter’s discretion if the following presents: 1) Academic probation or loss of eligibility; 2) Withdrawal from the college/university; 3) Misconduct or misrepresentation on the application; and 4) Conviction of a crime (misdemeanor or felony).</p> <p>The Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. scholarship award recipient(s) consent for name, photo, or story to be used in promotional materials (e.g. social media, press release etc.).</p>
<p><b>Deadlines, Notifications &amp; Announcements</b></p>	<p>March 1: Applications released at Dover Alumnae Chapters online scholarship website and in Kent County High schools</p> <p>April 17: Applications Due/Postmarked by/Online Time Stamped 11:59pm</p> <p>April 24: Applications to Committee</p> <p>April 27-May 1: Application Evaluations Complete</p> <p>May 11: Award Recipients are notified via email</p> <p>May 29: Award Recipients must sign an Award Acceptance Form acknowledging scholarship terms and conditions.</p> <p>Note: Awards may be presented during a recognition ceremony or community event. Recipients will be notified in advance.</p>
<p><b>Disclaimers</b></p>	<p>The Dover Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. scholarship funds are subject to availability and donor discretion.</p> <p>The Chapter is not responsible for lost or misused funds.</p>

	<p>Terms and conditions may change without notice.</p> <p>By accepting this scholarship award, the recipient agrees to comply with all terms and conditions outlined herein.</p>
<b>Contact Information</b>	<p>Helen Arthur, Co-Chair Scholarship Committee Denise Barnes, Co-Chair Scholarship Committee Email: DAC Scholarship@doverdeltas.org</p>

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