



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® - Epsilon Chi Omega Chapter
The Palmetto Pearls Foundation
Diamond Scholarship

Purpose: The purpose of **The ECO/Palmetto Pearls Foundation Diamond Scholarship** is to provide financial assistance to graduating seniors who will be attending an accredited four (4) year college or university.

The students eligible for the ***Diamond Scholarship*** must be high school seniors who attend schools in the cities of Darlington or Florence, SC, and intend to continue their education at a 4-year accredited college or university. Applicants must have a 3.0* average to apply. Consideration will be given to academic achievement, financial need, community service, and a 500-word essay. Students should submit the application and all required documentation electronically by July 13, 2025. Questions about this process can be directed to The Palmetto Pearls Foundation at ecotppfscholarships@gmail.com

Diamond Scholarship Guidelines

Criteria:

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- An applicant must be a graduating high school senior male or female, who attends school in the cities of Darlington or Florence, South Carolina. (City of Darlington: Darlington High School, Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology; City of Florence: South Florence High School, West Florence High School, and Wilson High School)
- An applicant must be a United States citizen.
- An applicant must have been accepted to enroll in an accredited college or university for the Fall of the 2025 academic year in or out of the state.
- An applicant must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- An applicant must have documented evidence of leadership in school, church, and/or volunteer community service.

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- Upload completed typed application form.
- Upload letter of acceptance from an accredited college or university you plan to attend.
- A high school transcript submitted electronically to: ecotppfscholarships@gmail.com
- Three letters of recommendation with two from a high school guidance counselor/school faculty member and the other from an organization representative for community/volunteer service. Relatives are prohibited from providing letters of recommendation. Letters of recommendation must be signed with either a wet signature (handwritten in ink) or a digital signature that meets legal and institutional standards for authentication and verification.
- An applicant must have documented evidence of leadership in school, church, and/or volunteer community service. An Applicant is required to submit a minimum of one (1) but no more than two (2) documented service [Evidence of Community and Campus Involvement \(ECCI\) Form](#) must be completed by an adult advisor/or supervisor. Community Service must be supported by an adult advisor/supervisor completing the Evidence of Community and Campus Involvement (ECCI) Form. (Church-related services are limited to outreach community activities and events).
ECCI Form Must Be Typed
- An applicant must submit a Resume

- An applicant must upload a headshot
- ***Upload an essay with a minimum of 500 words (typed, double-spaced, and 12-point font).***

In 500 words, type an essay responding to the following: ***Describe how your heritage, family, and the community in which you grew up have impacted your desire and motivation to obtain a college degree.***

Signatures must be completed as follows: DocuSign, Adobe Electronic Signature or Original Handwritten Signature

This **one-time scholarship** award of \$1000 will be disbursed in a single payment during August or September 2025.

Deadline to Apply: July 13, 2025

Incomplete applications will not be considered. No notification will be given for incomplete applications. All ten items must be received electronically no later than July 13, 2025

Students must provide evidence of meeting high school GPA criteria and evidence of enrollment in an accredited college/university prior to disbursement of funds. If selected, enrollment in an accredited college/university must occur by August 31, 2024, to receive scholarship funds.