

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Decatur Alumnae Chapter 2009 - 2010 Scholarship Guidelines

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Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Decatur Alumnae Chapter

I. Purpose of Scholarships

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is a public service sorority that is committed to educational excellence. Believing in the importance of fostering the potential and the fine accomplishments of high achieving African-American students, Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is offering financial assistance to students pursuing higher education. The scholarships provide assistance to outstanding students to help defray the cost of their education.

Students in their senior year of high school who are planning to attend an accredited institution of higher learning and who are residents of Decatur Alumnae's service area, which includes certain portions of DeKalb County and Gwinnett County, are given the opportunity to apply for these scholarships during the current academic school year. A student is defined as an African-American high school senior who may or may not be the child of a financial sorority member of Decatur Alumnae Chapter or any of the other Metro-Atlanta chapters.

These scholarships are designed to provide assistance to high school students who demonstrate ability, aptitude, community service, church involvement, and a promising scholastic future.

II. List of Service Area High Schools

The following is a listing of public high schools that are located in the Decatur Alumnae Chapter's service area. The schools are located in DeKalb County, and include Decatur, Tucker, Dunwoody, Chamblee, Doraville, Ellenwood, Clarkston, Avondale Estates, Scottsdale and East Atlanta (DeKalb County); and additional portions of Gwinnett County to include Norcross only.

- Avondale High School
- Cedar Grove High School
- Chamblee High School
- Clarkston High School
- Columbia High School
- Cross Keys High School
- Decatur High School
- DeKalb School of the Arts
- Druid Hills High School
- Dunwoody High School
- Elizabeth Andrews High School
- Lakeside High School
- McNair High School
- Norcross High School
- Southwest DeKalb High School
- Towers High School
- Tucker High School

III. Scholarship Guidelines

1. A student's eligibility for scholarship is based on the student's intent to seek a degree at any accredited institution.
2. Recipients are not selected on the basis of scholarship alone but also on the following factors: extra-curricular school activities, community service, church involvement, and scholastic achievement.
3. Application forms are available on December 1, 2009 and will be distributed to all high school principals and counselors within Decatur Alumnae Chapter's service area. Completed application forms must be received no later than February 1, 2010. The completed application with supporting documents should be mailed to: Scholarship Committee, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Decatur Alumnae Chapter, P.O. Box 370673, Decatur, GA 30037-0673
4. Scholarships will be awarded to the top three students who will receive the highest amounts in descending increments, for example, \$4,000, \$2,500 and \$1,500. The remaining funds will be equally distributed to students ranking in fourth place and below never to exceed the amount awarded to the third place recipient. Book stipends will be awarded to students earning a score of 75 points or above.
5. Scholarship funds will be released once the student has provided documented proof of college enrollment to the Scholarship Committee.
6. Scholarships are limited to freshmen students who must provide documentation of college registration and enter school before **December 31st** of the scholarship award year.
7. The first, second, and third place winners of the scholarship competition are eligible for a continuing book stipend for three years after the initial scholarship award. The amount of the continuing book stipend will equal the amount awarded for book stipends in any given year.
8. Only completed applications will be accepted. The completed application packet consists of the following information:
 - ◆ The Scholarship Application
 - ◆ An essay not to exceed 500 words on the following topic: Describe an event or person who has changed or significantly impacted your life. Explain the change or impact that the event or person has had on you. **This essay should be typed. Please be sure to place your name on each page.**
 - ◆ An official, certified high school transcript, which **must include the Core G.P.A.**
 - ◆ A letter of recommendation on school letterhead from a high school official.
9. Once the completed application has been reviewed, students are required to participate in a mandatory interview on a day designated by the Scholarship Committee. The date for the mandatory interviews for this year is **Saturday, March 13, 2010**. Please note that this will be the **only** interview date for the Scholarship Competition. **The dress code for candidates is professional business attire.**

10. Scholarship awards and book stipends will be presented on **Saturday, May 1, 2010** to the students at the Scholarship Recipient Awards Breakfast. Families and friends are invited to attend this recognition and may purchase tickets from any member of the Scholarship Committee of Decatur Alumnae Chapter. **Students or their parents must be present at the Scholarship Recipient Awards Breakfast in order to receive the scholarship or book stipend.**
11. Students must have a core G.P.A. of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale. **If the applicant's school does not have the core GPA printed on the transcript, an official letter from the counselor or administrator must accompany the transcript stating the actual core GPA.** DeKalb County transcripts have the core GPA listed. **Transcripts without the core GPA/official letter stating the core GPA will be disqualified.**
12. Because of the number of students applying for scholarships each year, the primary form of communication will be through e-mail. On your scholarship application, please list a current e-mail address for you and a parent. If your e-mail address changes, please notify us.

IV. Scholarship Awards Decision Process

A panel of judges who are college graduates and represent various professions will be responsible for conducting the interviews and ranking the essays. The panel will not consist of any member of the Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

On a scale of 100 points candidates will be scored on the following criteria:

1. Written essay: 25 Points
2. Personal Interview: 50 Points
One segment of the interview will assess your delivery technique, evidence of research, and overall summary regarding your essay. Another segment of the interview will assess your interviewing skills - eye contact, handling of questions, and knowledge of your written essay, poise, and interpersonal relationship skills.
3. Other information (application, high school transcript, extra-curricular activities, community and church involvement, and letter of recommendation): 25 Points

A candidate must receive a minimum of 75 points to be considered for a scholarship award or book stipend.

V. Scholarship Application Deadline Dates

December 1, 2009	Application Distributed to the Area High Schools
February 1, 2010	Scholarship Applications Due Must be postmarked by February 1, 2010
February 15, 2010	Letter of Notification Sent to Competing Students
March 13, 2010	Scholarship Competition Mandatory interviews for Students
May 1, 2010	Scholarship Breakfast Scholarships and Book Stipends Awarded

**DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.
DECATUR ALUMNAE CHAPTER
2009-2010 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

(This Scholarship is for African-American Students)

Note: Please attach the following items to this application:

- (1) Typed essay not to exceed 500 words - "Describe an event or person who has changed or significantly impacted your life. Explain the change or impact that event or person has had on you." Your name must be on each page. Be sure that you place the title of your essay on the first page.
- (2) A letter of recommendation from a school official on official letterhead
- (3) An **official copy of High School transcript**. (Core G.P.A. must be 2.7 or higher)

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN:

FEBRUARY 1, 2010

* Please Print or Type this Application

1. Applicant's Name _____

2. Applicant's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

3. Home Telephone Number _____

Student's e-mail address _____

Parent's e-mail address _____

4. Date of Birth _____

5. Mother's/Guardian's Name _____

6. Mother's/Guardian's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

7. Father's/Guardian's Name _____

8. Father's/Guardian's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

9. Name of high school _____

10. **CORE** Grade Point Average (Must be 2.7 or above on a 4.0 scale) _____

Scholarship!

11. List your extra-curricular activities below. Indicate by each year the activities in which you participated. (You may attach additional sheets to this application.)

Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior

12. List any honors or special recognition you have received for your schoolwork or extra-curricular activities. (You may attach additional sheets to this application.)

13. List names of clubs, organizations and/or community activities (Scouts, youth groups, church involvement, etc.). Include dates of service/participation and any office(s) you may have held. (You may attach additional sheets to this application.)

14. In order of preference, list colleges to which you have applied.

1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____ 4. _____

15. What course of study do you plan to pursue? _____



16. List your hobbies: _____

The above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

The sorority might wish to print or refer to portions of your essay during the recognition breakfast. Do you grant your permission for this? _____

Applicant's Signature

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date

Note: Your choice of college or course of study will in no way affect your chances of winning a scholarship.

****** If your Core G.P.A. is not printed on your transcript, your counselor or an administrator from your school must submit an accompanying letter with your transcript stating your Core GPA. (DeKalb County School System Transcripts have the CORE G.P.A. printed on the actual transcript.) Applications without the Core G.P.A. or the accompanying letter that states the Core G.P.A. will not be considered.**

****** ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN:
FEBRUARY 1, 2010**

****** KEEP A COPY OF THE APPLICATION AND ALL ATTACHMENTS FOR YOUR RECORDS**

****** MAIL THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:**

Scholarship Committee
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Decatur Alumnae Chapter
P.O. Box 370673
Decatur, GA 30037-0673

