

EPSILON PHI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PROGRAM

This is an overview and guide for students interested in applying for these scholarships, and other interested parties. Applicants for scholarships must qualify by being African-American or Latino-American male undergraduate students attending Northern Illinois University (NIU), DeKalb, Illinois campus.

BACKGROUND:

This scholarship program was established by NIU alumni men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Epsilon Phi Chapter. Designed to provide additional financial assistance toward graduation for Black and Latino male undergraduate students, members of our local fraternity graduate chapter Mu Alpha Lambda and the Epsilon Phi (E Phi) alumni organization have partnered with the university and its staff to promote opportunities at The Center for Black Studies, The CHANCE Program, and The Latino Resource Center offices. We wanted to provide additional scholarship information and financial assistance where we believe it remains sorely needed on campus.

Financial assistance was needed long before the 1964 founding of our fraternity's undergraduate chapter at NIU, and long before the establishment of the aforementioned university offices. We also recognize that our personal successes were achieved because other people invested in us—helping us scholastically and financially, while providing personal guidance. This program is a continuance of that belief and investment.

PURPOSES:

Awarded funds are for **direct educational expenses**, such as:

- Tuition
- Books and other class materials or equipment (computer, thumb drive, pens/pencils, etc.)
- Room or Meal Plan expenses
- Fees, fines, tickets, bills, or other obligations now owed to NIU, excluding deferred repayment of loan arrangements
- Excludes use for non-educational or personal expenses (i.e., alcohol, entertainment, gasoline, clothing, etc.)

QUALIFICATIONS:

An Applicant must be:

- African-American or Latino-American heritage
- Identify as a male student
- Full-time student currently pursuing an undergraduate degree at NIU
- Enrolled to attend classes in NIU facilities on the DeKalb, Illinois campus
- At least 18 years of age at the time of application
- Have sufficient college credits to qualify at NIU as a sophomore, or beyond, at the time of application

It is advised to **apply early** during the designated application period.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- Complete and submit an electronic Scholarship Application at EPhiAlumniAssociation.com (pronounced; e phi alumni association.com). It is possible to **intermittently save** the application online and complete/submit later. **PLEASE ANSWER ALL REQUESTS ACCURATELY AND THOROUGHLY.** Inaccurate or inadequate information may disqualify the application.
- **SUBMIT THE APPLICATION ONLINE during the designated application period, which currently is Sunday, 1/22/23 through Sunday, 2/5/23.** Any applications submitted outside of these parameters, or delivered to any affiliated offices, will not be considered.
- Only one application per person may be submitted for a designated round of funding.
- **Only online applications will be accepted.**
- **Do not contact the offices** of Center for Black Studies, CHANCE Program, or the Latino Resource Center, (administrators/associates of The Black Male Initiative or Supporting Opportunities for Latinos) or members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, **to determine the status of an application.** They will not know. Applicants will be notified upon evaluation completion.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

- Scholarships are Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) each, and are awarded on a single semester basis for immediate use.
- Receipt of a scholarship does not guaranty receipt of future scholarship awards.
- There is a 3-step process conducted in order to receive an award:
 1. Review of the application for completeness and qualifications,
 2. Analysis of scholarship candidate information,
 3. Interview, on Zoom, with an evaluator.
- Applicants must complete all required steps and score well to receive an award.
- Questions about this program can be directed at any time to info@EPhiAlumniAssociation.com

This overview guide is not intended to be all encompassing to address situations that may arise in the operation of the scholarship program. It is merely a summary and overview to familiarize students and others with our criteria and evaluation process.

Epsilon Phi Alumni Association, and its affiliated partners, reserve the right to use our judgement and discretion in the analyses of applications and the granting of awards. We also reserve the right to make amendments to qualifications and procedures to the program without notice.

CONTRIBUTORS:

Interested parties wishing to make financial contributions to the scholarship fund may direct their donations to the corporate office of Epsilon Phi Development Initiatives, NFP, a 501(c)3, in accordance with options noted within this website. Contributions may be tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. We provide our contributors an annual letter of appreciation reflecting their financial support.

The aforementioned entity was designed to provide mentoring, counseling, and developmental skills to young men to increase their possibilities for success. Your contributions will help someone get a hand up and to grow, both scholastically and personally. We thank you for your interest, and look forward to communicating with you.