



*Decatur Alumnae Chapter of
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
Scholarship Application
2017 - 2018*

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Decatur Alumnae Chapter
P.O. Box 370673
Decatur, Georgia 30037-0673
dacdtscholarships@gmail.com

Decatur Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

I. Purpose of Scholarships

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is a public service sorority that is committed to educational excellence. We believe in the importance of fostering the potential and accomplishments of high achieving students. The Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is offering financial assistance to outstanding students to help defray the cost of pursuing higher education. These scholarships are designed to provide assistance to high school students who demonstrate ability, aptitude, community service, church involvement, and a promising scholastic future.

Students in their senior year of high school who are planning to attend an accredited institution of higher learning and who attend a high school in Decatur Alumnae's service area are eligible to apply for these scholarships. A student is defined as a high school senior who may or may not be the child of a financial member of the Decatur Alumnae Chapter.

II. List of Service Area High Schools

The following is a list of high schools that are located in the Decatur Alumnae Chapter service area. The Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., services most of DeKalb County including the cities of Avondale Estates, Chamblee, Clarkston, Decatur, Doraville, Dunwoody, East Atlanta-DeKalb, Ellenwood, Scottdale, and Tucker.

- Cedar Grove High School
- Chamblee Charter High School
- Charles R. Drew Charter School
- Clarkston High School
- Columbia High School
- Cross Keys High School
- Decatur High School
- DeKalb Early College Academy
- DeKalb High School of Technology South
- DeKalb School of the Arts
- Druid Hills High School
- Dunwoody High School
- Lakeside High School
- Ronald E. McNair High School
- Southwest DeKalb High School
- Towers High School
- Tucker High School
- Warren Technical School
- Private Schools within the Decatur Alumnae Chapter's Service Area

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III. Scholarship Guidelines/Criteria

1. A student's eligibility for a scholarship is based on the student's intent to seek a degree at any four-year accredited institution.
2. Recipients are selected based on extra-curricular school activities, community service, church involvement, and scholastic achievement.
3. Application forms will be distributed to all high school principals and counselors within the Decatur Alumnae Chapter service area on November 10, 2017. Completed application forms must be **signed** and **postmarked** no later than **February 9, 2018**. 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 of the competition. Funds will be distributed to those students in descending increments: for example \$4,000, \$2,500 and \$1,500. The remaining funds will be allocated as book stipends and equally distributed to students ranking in 4th place and below.
5. Scholarships are limited to freshmen students who must provide documentation of college registration and enter school before **December 31st** of the scholarship award year. Scholarship funds will be released once the recipient has provided the Decatur Alumnae Chapter Scholarship committee a class schedule from their respective college or university. **Unclaimed funds will be forfeited.**
6. Only completed applications will be accepted. A completed application packet consists of the following information:
 1. **Completed** and **signed** Scholarship Application
 2. Essay not to exceed 500 words on one (1) of the following topics:
 - a. Should African Americans with financial wealth (such as professional athletes, celebrities or others) use their platform to influence social justice in our society? Why or why not?
 - b. What are your thoughts on the decriminalization and/or legalization of marijuana? In your answer, discuss how or why age should be considered?

This essay should be typed. Please be sure to place your name & the title of your essay in the header of each page.
 3. An official, certified high school transcript, which **must include the cumulative GPA**

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4. A **signed, sealed** letter of recommendation, on **school letterhead**, from a school official at the school you currently attend.
5. A **signed, sealed** community service verification letter indicating **duties performed** and **total volunteer hours**. The letter must be on **official letterhead** from the organization you served.
7. Students must have a **cumulative GPA** of **2.7** on a **4.0** scale. If the applicant's school does not have the cumulative GPA printed on the transcript as a numeric value, an official letter from the counselor or administrator must accompany the transcript stating the numeric cumulative GPA. Transcripts without the numeric cumulative GPA or official letter stating the numeric cumulative GPA will be disqualified.
8. Once the completed application has been reviewed, students are required to participate in the Scholarship Competition on **Saturday, March 24, 2018**. Please note that this will be the **only** interview date for the Scholarship Competition. The competition includes a **panel** interview that will assess the applicants overall delivery, appearance, and composure, as well as, knowledge and response to questions regarding their written essay. **Professional business attire is mandatory for the panel interview.**
9. Scholarship and book stipend award letters will be presented to the students at the Scholarship Awards Jazz Brunch on **Saturday, May 5, 2018**. **Students or their parents must be present during the event to receive the scholarship or book stipend.**
10. Because of the number of students applying for scholarships each year, the primary form of communication will be through e-mail. Please list a current e-mail address for the applicant and a parent on the scholarship application. Please notify us immediately if any of the e-mail addresses change.

IV. Scholarship Awards Decision Process/Scoring

The completed packet will be scored by members of the Decatur Alumnae Chapter Scholarship Committee. The interviews will be conducted by a panel of judges who are college graduates and represent various professions. 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, applicants will be scored on the following criteria:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. GPA Score | 20 Points Maximum |
| 2. Written Essay | 25 Points Maximum |
| 3. Community Service Verification | 25 Points Maximum |
| 4. Personal Interview | 30 Points Maximum |

*****An applicant must receive a minimum of 75 points to be considered for a scholarship award or book stipend*****

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V. Scholarship Application Deadline Dates

November 10, 2017	Application distributed to the area high schools
January 27, 2018	Interview Prep Session at the Community Achievement Center 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (optional)
February 9, 2018	Scholarship Applications due, must be postmarked by February 9, 2018
March 2, 2018	Letter of Notification sent to competing applicants
March 24, 2018	Scholarship Competition mandatory interviews for applicants
May 5, 2018	Scholarship Awards Jazz Brunch

***The interview prep session is highly encouraged but not required.*

*The Interview prep session will take place, Saturday, January 27, 2018 at the Community Achievement Center, 4522 Flat Shoals Pkwy. Decatur, GA 30034. ***

Please RSVP to dacdstdscholarships@gmail.com by January 13, 2018

2017-2018 Scholarship Application

Please Print or Type this Application

Personal Information:

Applicant's Name _____

Parent/Guardian's Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number (____) _____

Student's E-mail Address _____

Date of Birth _____

For tracking purposes, please indicate if you are currently involved in either of these programs sponsored by the Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.: GEMS EMBODI

Academic Information:

Name of High School _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average (Must be 2.7 or above on a 4.0 scale) _____

Have you taken the SAT and/or ACT? Yes or No Score: _____

Extracurricular Activities:

List your extra-curricular activities. Indicate your years of participation and any offices held.

Honors and Awards:

List any honors and awards.

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Community Service:

Please include one community service verification letter detailing your involvement and length of service. The letter must be signed, sealed, and on official letterhead from the organization you served.

Employment:

List the employer, position, and dates of employment.

College/University:

List (in order of preference) the Colleges/Universities where you have applied and or been accepted.

Course of Study:

What course of study do you plan to pursue in college?

Certification:

I certify that the above information is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge, and that the essay submitted is my own work. I understand that I may be disqualified if any submitted information is found to be false. In the event I am eligible to continue in the competition or awarded a scholarship or book stipend, I give the Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. permission to take my picture, use my name and award amount in publicity materials.

Applicant Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Essay Topics

GUIDELINES: Essay is not to exceed 500 words on *one (1)* of the following topics. This essay should be typed and grammatically correct. Please be sure to place your name and the title of your essay in the header of *each* page.

ESSAY A:

Should African Americans with financial wealth (such as professional athletes, celebrities or others) use their platform to influence social justice in our society? Why or why not?

ESSAY B:

**What are your thoughts on the decriminalization and/or legalization of marijuana?
In your answer, discuss how or why age should be considered?**

VII. Checklist:

DID YOU REMEMBER TO:

- Sign your application
- Have your parent/guardian sign your application
- Include the two (2) fully completed pages of your application
- Include your typed essay
- Include your signed and sealed letter of recommendation or have it submitted on your behalf
- Include your signed and sealed community service verification or have it submitted on your behalf
- Include an official transcript or official letter stating numeric cumulative GPA
- Application is postmarked by **February 9, 2018**

****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