



A scholarship for high school seniors living in public or assisted housing at a NYSPHADA member agency.

One scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$2,500.00

One runner-up will be awarded \$1,000.00.

Applications are due to NYSPHADA by April 6, 2026.

Scholarship Program

In order to encourage academic excellence and community responsibility among high school students, NYSPHADA has implemented a scholarship program for graduating seniors who are preparing to enter higher level learning (defined as a 2-4 year college, trade school or formal certification program). NYSPHADA will award one (1) scholarship to a deserving youth currently residing in a NYSPHADA member agency.

This scholarship will be formally presented at NYSPHADA's Annual Conference and Exhibition on May 20, 2026 at the Turning Stone Casino & Resort in Verona, New York. The winner will receive travel accommodations for him/herself and one parent/guardian to attend the conference.

The scholarship fund will be administered by the NYSPHADA Scholarship Committee. The money will go directly to the school that the recipient will be attending. The scholarship money is intended to be used to pay for tuition, housing, books, meal plans and activities directly related to the students education.

Eligibility Checklist

Please complete checklist. All documents should be typewritten. Please do not fold or staple documents.

☐ **Status**

Applicant must be a **high school senior and reside in a NYSPHADA member agency** owned or managed unit throughout his/her entire senior year. Public Housing residents, Section 8 participants or other low-income housing residents are eligible, as long as the agency at which they reside is a NYSPHADA member.

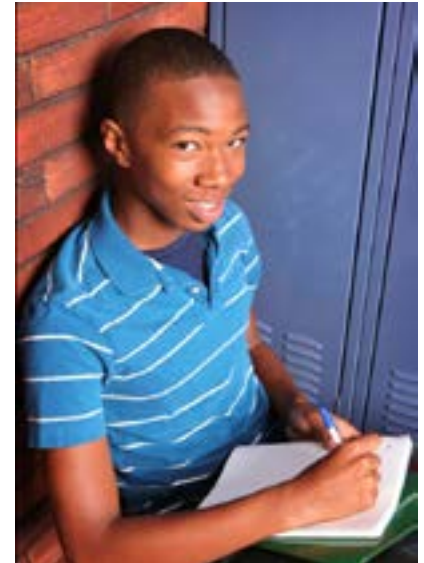
☐ **Minimum Grade Point Average**

Student must have at least a "B" average on his/her school's applicable scale during his/her high school career, cumulatively, to be considered for the scholarship. (NOTE: School counselor must complete the Grade Point Average Verification form on the verification page of this application.)

For consideration of this scholarship, applications must be completed in their entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Requirement Checklist

Submit the following documents to the Executive Director of your housing authority. All documents must be typewritten. Please do not fold or staple documents.



☐ Application

The application may be found on NYSPHADA's website at www.nysphada.org. On the homepage, click the NYSPHADA Scholarship Application link to download the application. Electronically complete the form, save it to your computer and print a copy. Include this printed application in the packet of materials that you submit to your Executive Director.

☐ Verification Page (included in this information packet)

- **Grade Point Average Verification** (must be completed by your school counselor)
- **Certification** (sign this portion of the document before submitting it to your Executive Director)

☐ School Transcript

You must provide an official and original high school transcript.

☐ Two Letters of Reference

You must submit two (2) teacher reference letters.

☐ Essay

You must submit a 400-500 word typewritten essay addressing the following topic:

Identify a person, character in fiction or historical figure who has had a significant influence on you and describe that influence.

☐ Executive Director Responsibilities

- ☐ **a.** Student must be recommended by the Executive Director of the housing authority in a letter **signed** by the Executive Director for the application to be considered complete.
- ☐ **b.** The Executive Director is responsible for verifying all application requirements.
- ☐ **c. Application Fee** – A \$50.00 non-refundable application fee is required and must be paid by the sponsoring housing authority. All proceeds from the fee will be added to the scholarship award. Check should be made payable to NYSPHADA.
- ☐ **d. Deadline** – All application materials must be received by NYSPHADA no later than **April 6, 2026. NO EXCEPTIONS.** No faxes will be accepted.
- ☐ **e.** Local promotion of the scholarship program is the responsibility of the housing authority. Each housing authority may submit up to two applications.
- ☐ **f.** Housing Authority must be a NYSPHADA member in good standing with dues paid current.



2026 Scholarship Application

Grade Point Average Verification

This section must be completed by school counselor.

Counselor Name _____ Phone _____

Type of Grading Scale used by school (ex. 4 pt., 6 pt., 100 pt., etc.) _____

*Please convert GPA to 4.0 scale or 100 point system when completing the section below:

9th Grade _____ 10th Grade _____ 11th Grade _____ 12th Grade _____

Cumulative GPA _____

*The student's official and original transcript must also be submitted with the application.

Certification

Must be signed by student and Executive Director.

Executive Director: Please verify all information is provided.

Incomplete applications will be rejected.

I certify that all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further certify the application is complete and contains all items from the "Requirement Checklist," including the Housing Authority's non-refundable \$50 application fee.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Executive Director Signature _____ Date _____

The housing authority must submit the application to NYSPHADA.

I, _____, hereby allow NYSPHADA to print/publish any items covered within for purposes of acknowledging winners of the Scholarship Program.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

2026 NYSPHADA Scholarship Program
Applications due to NYSPHADA by April 6, 2026.
NO EXCEPTIONS.



2026 Scholarship Application

Mail all required materials to: NYSPHADA Scholarship Committee
c/o Ithaca Housing Authority
Attn: Brenda C. Westfall; Executive Director
798-800 S. Plain Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Years you have lived at present address _____ Date of Birth _____

Email Address _____ Currently in Grade _____ Graduation Date _____

Sponsoring Agency Name _____

Sponsoring Agency Address _____

Name of high school from which you expect to graduate _____

High School Address _____

What is your desired Academic Major (if any) _____

To which 2-4 year college, trade school or formal certification program have you applied?

School	Address	Status of Application (denied/accepted/pending, etc.)

Summarize your academic achievements (i.e., scholarships, awards, etc.)

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List extracurricular school activities in which you are currently participating (i.e., clubs, teams, etc.)

Indicate the community activities in which you are currently participating (i.e., church, community service, etc.)

Indicate extracurricular and community activities in which you have participated in the past.

List any hobbies or special interests.

Indicate any jobs which you are holding or have held in the past.

Describe your objective in continuing your education beyond high school.
Relate this to any specific career interest you may have.

In addition to the above information, you must provide the housing authority Executive Director with the items indicated on the “Requirement Checklist.”

Thank you and Good Luck!