

John J. Wright Memorial Scholarship Program 2017 Scholarship Application

John J. Wright was the founder of the John J. Wright School in Snell, Virginia. Education was his greatest love. The scholarship fund, established in 1994, is intended to continue his efforts on behalf of (1) the children of John J. Wright Alumni, and (2) other African American children of Spotsylvania, Virginia.

The John J. Wright Memorial Scholarship Program is accepting applications from:

- 1) high school students who will graduate spring 2017 and who are planning to attend a technical school, community college, or a four-year college or university in the fall 2017 ("high school applicants") on a full time basis;
- 2) persons who have graduated from high school and who are planning to attend a technical school, community college, or a four-year college or university in the fall 2017 ("first time applicants"); and
- 3) full-time students who are planning to return to a technical school, community college, or a four-year college or university in the fall 2017 ("returning student applicants").

Full time returning students maintaining a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) on a four point grading scale in their freshman, sophomore, or junior year, and meeting all other eligibility criteria, may apply for a stipend of \$400.00 (or more depending on the number of applicants and resources available).

Applicants can receive a scholarship and/or stipend no more than four (4) times.

The complete application package must be submitted to the scholarship committee no later than **April 15, 2017** and contain the following:

- 1) High school applicant package checklist:
 - a completed scholarship application form
 - an official, sealed, high school transcript that includes the cumulative GPA
 - two (2) recommendations (one from a teacher and one from an official of one of the following: current school, community organization, church, or employer)
 - a written essay
 - small photo
- 2) First time applicant package checklist:
 - a completed scholarship application form
 - an official, sealed, high school or college transcript that includes the cumulative GPA
 - two (2) recommendations (from an official of one or more of the following: current school, community organization, church, or employer)
 - a written essay
 - small photo
- 3) Returning student applicant package checklist:
 - a completed scholarship application form
 - an official sealed college transcript that includes the cumulative GPA

APPLICATION PACKAGES MUST BE MAILED AND POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN April 15, 2017. Application packaged postmarked after April 15, 2017 WILL NOT be considered. Mail applications to:

JJW Alumni Association, PO Box 1061, Spotsylvania VA 22553-1061

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- **Applicant must be an “active financial member” of the John J. Wright Alumni Association, or the offspring of an “active financial member” of the Alumni Association (offspring may be a biological, step, adopted or foster child or a grandchild). The member, upon whom the applicant is basing his or her eligibility, must be an “active financial” and “current year” member of the Alumni Association for at least two consecutive years prior to the year of application (2015, 2016 and 2017). Membership dues must be paid by April 15 of the current year.**
- High School applicants must be graduating from an accredited secondary educational institution. All other applicants must have graduated from an accredited secondary educational institution.
- Returning student applicants must be full-time students returning to a technical school, community college, or four-year college or university.
- High School applicants and first-time applicants must have applied for admission to at least one accredited technical school, community college, or four-year college or university.
- **High School applicants and first-time applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. Returning student applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.**
- All high school and first time applicants must provide two (2) recommendations from an official of one or more of the following: current school, community organization, church, or employer. One (1) of the two recommendations must be from a high school teacher if applicant is in high school.
- **A small high school picture and a brief bio for high school and first time applicants are required. The bio can be included on the application form.**
- A personal interview, consisting of an oral presentation of the applicant's essay and a question/response period, may be required.
- Applicant must provide proof they are enrolled in school for the fall semester before receipt of scholarship/stipend.
- **Applicant must agree to return any scholarship award if applicant does not attend an educational institution or technical school in fall 2017.**

Application Essay

All graduating high school applicants must submit a double spaced, typewritten essay, 300 to 500 words in length, on one of the following topics:

- 1) “My chosen field of study is ...because...”
- 2) “My community, church or family has influenced me...”
- 3) “It is important for me to attend college or training because...”

Failure to address one of the specified topics disqualifies the essay and the application from consideration for a scholarship award.

Qualifying Competitive Factors

- 1) Essay will be rated on content, depth, grammar, organization and originality.
- 2) Official cumulative GPA: High School and First-time Applicants - freshman through first semester of senior high school year; Returning Student Applicants – first (freshman) year through spring semester 2017. Sealed official transcript must be provided to Scholarship Committee with applicant package.

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For information contact:

Sandy Coleman
Scholarship Committee Chair
(540) 891-0171

P.O. Box 1061
Spotsylvania VA 22553-1061

Scholarship@jjwalumni.org

Applicants will be sent written notification of the status of their application via email.

Name and Location of Institution Applicant plans to attend in Fall 2017 _____

Received a letter of acceptance? Yes No If Yes, Name of Institution(s) _____

Other Institutions where Applications are Pending _____

Intended Field of Study (if known) : _____

I promise to return any scholarship funds awarded to me in the event that I do not enroll or attend an educational or training institution in the Fall 2017.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____
(If high school applicant)

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY:

Application Received By: _____ Date: _____

Date of Receipt by Scholarship Committee: _____

Essay Attached Yes No Recommendations Received Yes

Transcript Received Yes No "Active Member" Yes No Picture Attached Yes