

Linda A. Bowden Scholarship

Mount Hope Baptist Church

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Dr. Rev. Raymond A. Bell, Jr.
Senior Pastor

Dea. Earl Edwards
Chairman of the Deacons Ministry

Bro. David Bowden, Jr.
Chairman of Trustees

Sis. Willa Thompson
Administrative Assistant

March 31, 2021

Dear Applicant:

On behalf of Mount Hope Baptist Church, we are pleased to announce the Linda A. Bowden Scholarship. These scholarships are provided for high school seniors and youth students continuing their education in an undergraduate degree program. The Linda A. Bowden Scholarship Fund provides youth disciples of Mount Hope Baptist Church financial assistance, as they further their education at a university, college, or an accredited trade school on a full-time basis.

If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, please review and follow the guidelines and instructions enclosed. A completed application **MUST** be submitted or postmarked by the applicable deadline date of **May 31, 2021 for high school seniors and June 30, 2021 or college students**. All completed applications must be submitted to the church office during work hours or via the U.S. Mail. **Submitting early is encouraged!** *Note: Please **do not** give applications to ushers, church officers, or scholarship committee members during Sunday church services.*

The topics for this year's essay are: *(Select one)*

(1) How has your Christian faith influenced your educational goals and life plans?

(2) Name a person who has significantly influenced your life and explain how their influence has impacted your educational goals and life plans?

Essays must be 300 words in length for high school seniors and 500 words for college students. All essays must be typed, double-spaced, and in 12 pitch font. Grammar, organization, and presentation of your essay will be closely evaluated by the committee.

We congratulate and salute you on your successes thus far, and we extend best wishes to you as you continue your education. Should you have any questions, please contact the church office and leave a message. A member of the scholarship committee will return your call.

LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

May God Bless and Keep you,

The Mount Hope Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Ministry Guidelines

Purpose: *The Linda A. Bowden Scholarship Fund was established to assist the youth disciples of Mt Hope Baptist Church in furthering their undergraduate studies.*

1. Recipient **MUST** be a **disciple** of Mt Hope Baptist Church. (*Six month minimum prior to application's deadline*) One or both Parents or Guardians need to be disciples in good standing (regular attendance, record of giving, and participation in one or more ministries). **Regular attendees who are not disciples are ineligible.**

2. Recipient must be a regular attendee when possible or have participated in at least one of Mount Hope Baptist Church's ministries. For the Class of 2020 high school graduates, there needs to be at least one year of documented participation in ministry of the applicant as verified by a letter from our youth minister Rev. Maurice Bowles, III or from an adult member of The Standard ministry.

3. Scholarship maximum eligibility is determined annually. This year's maximum is 4 years. Recipient must be a full-time student within 1 year of graduating high school to be eligible. Failure to comply will result in your ineligibility for future scholarships.

4. Recipient must be enrolled or accepted to a college, university or an accredited trade school on a **full time** basis (12 credits minimum). Proof of enrollment is required before receiving scholarship.

5. Recipient must be working towards an associate's degree, undergraduate degree or a certificate of completion.

6. Submit an assigned essay: (topic to be assigned)
High School Senior 300 words --- Returning College Students 500 words

After students receive the scholarship for the first time, college students must renew annually by completing a new application.

7. High School Senior GPA waived - **Must have letter of acceptance** –
College Student must have a 2.0 or higher GPA.

8. Deadline for submission: High school senior is **May 31, 2021**
College returning students: **June 20, 2021**
(Applications will not be accepted after posted deadline)

9. Submit **two new** letters of reference from any of the following: **teacher, counselor, principal, professor, advisor, or a community leader** verifying your services. **One must be from a church ministry here or from one you are participating with in your school area. Community based organization recommendation are acceptable.** (*Letters from family members will not be accepted.*) Letters should be on letterhead (if possible) and **must be signed by the recommender.** Letters should not be written by the staff of Mt. Hope unless they are also presiding over a ministry.

10. Submit copy of entire transcript: official or unofficial (For high school seniors, the 1st semester of senior year should be included)

11. Submit completed package to: Mt. Hope Baptist Church, **Attn: Scholarship Committee**, 6823 Harrison Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22407.

12. Awards will be made payable to the qualifying recipient and/or the parent(s) prior to beginning of classes for that academic school year.
13. A color or black/white photograph of the applicant should be submitted.
14. For the 2019 high school applicants, a face-to-face meeting is required after the application is submitted. This will allow the scholarship committee members to get to know the applicants.
15. The Scholarship Committee will notify qualifying recipients in writing of the committee's decision.
16. The Pastor gives the final approval for a scholarship recipient.
17. An official presentation will be conducted during the Senior Class Award Ceremony at various high schools for High School graduates. College students will be presented at a presentation ceremony at Mt. Hope Baptist Church.

Application

(Please type or complete in blue or black ink)

Deadline for High School Senior Applications and all attachments is: May 31, 2020

Deadline for Returning College Student Applications and attachments is: June 30, 2020

School Year (Sep - Jun): _____ Date Submitted: _____ Date Joined Mt Hope: _____

Complete Name: _____

(Last) (First) (Middle)

Current Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip code: _____ Current Telephone # : (____) _____ Current Email : _____

For High School Students:

Name of High School: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Name of Trade School/Community College/ University you desire to attend upon graduation: _____

Current HS GPA: _____

For Returning College Students:

Name of College/University/Trade school: _____

Address of Institution: _____

Are you on a semester system: yes ___ no ___. If no, what system? _____

Date of Entrance: _____ Anticipated Graduation: _____ (mo/yr)

Classification Status (as of Aug 2018): ___ Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior ___ Senior

Major: _____ Minor: _____ GPA _____

Goal(s) upon graduation: _____

Job(s) desire: _____

Name of Church you attend while in college (if different): _____

Address: _____

Number street

City / State

Zip

For both College and High School Students:

List Activities / Ministries that you are currently or have been involved with: _____

List any honors, awards, or associations you desire the committee to be aware of:

Parent/Guardian Information:

Complete Name : _____ Relationship: _____

Complete Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-mail address _____

Are parents/guardians disciples of Mt Hope Baptist Church: yes ___ no ___

I affirm that the information contained above is true and I am a disciple of Mt Hope Baptist Church. Should I decline enrollment, decide not to return to school or fail to maintain a full time student status, I will return the scholarship in full within 30 days of any change.

Checklist of Required items:

Application _____ Essay _____ Letters of Reference _____ Proof of Enrollment/Acceptance: _____ Transcript _____

Color or Black/White Photograph of Applicant _____

Name of High School: _____ High School Counselor: _____
(Class of 2019 only) (Name)

Student's Signature

Date

Parent / Guardian' Signature

(High School Senior Only!)

Date

Committee's Comments

Date Received: _____

Date Reviewed: _____

Date joined Mt. Hope: _____ Verified by: _____

Notes: _____

Committee Decision: _____ Approved _____ Disapproved

Reason for Disapproval: _____

Signature of Committee Members:

Final Approval by Pastor: _____

Date Submitted to Finance Office: _____ By _____

Date Check Rec'd: _____ Date Presented: _____

