

The J. D. Williams

Scholarship

Mr. Abe Makiti, President Connectional Lay Organization

Scholarship Committee

Mrs. Patricia Wright, Director of Lay Activities, Connectional Lay Organization

Members:

Ms. Veronica L. Wiley, Chairperson (9)
Ms. Gloria A. McClam, Co-Chairperson (7)
Ms. Renee Callendar (1)
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Ms. Deena Dubose Brown (4)
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Dr. Augurie E. Stevens (14)
Mr. Mutale Bowa (17)
Mr. John Chilekwa (17)
Ms. Connie Mbowane (19)
Mr. Victor Mhlanga (19)

A **one-time** \$5,000.00 scholarship will be awarded to a person pursuing course of study leading to a Bachelor's Degree, Master of Divinity or Doctor of Ministry. The deadline for submission is **April 16, 2025**. **(Please submit only 1 application per Episcopal District. The packet must be submitted by the Episcopal District President or his/her designee.)**

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Connectional Lay Organization



J. D. Williams Scholarship

The J.D. Williams Scholarship was established by the Connectional Lay Organization for the purpose of assisting young men and women in obtaining a college education. The funds for the scholarship will be administered by the Connectional Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This scholarship is designated for a student planning to attend a four-year A.M.E. college, university, or seminary.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
- Must attend an A.M.E. college, university, or seminary in the Fall of 2025
- Pursue course of study leading to a Bachelor's Degree, Master of Divinity or Doctor of Ministry

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Recipients will be selected by a judging committee comprised of members of the Connectional Lay Organization Scholarship Committee. The judges will evaluate eligible students based on academic record, financial need, reference letters, qualities of leadership and extracurricular activities and accomplishments. Winners will be announced by the Scholarship Committee at the site of the 2025 Biennial. All decisions by the judges are final. No material will be returned. Applications not submitted in their entirety will not be processed.

THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The winning applicant will be awarded a **one-time** scholarship of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). All scholarships will be distributed directly to the students after verification of registration for the Fall 2025 semester or quarter. In the event the student is unable to attend in the Fall 2025, the award will be returned to the scholarship fund.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following materials in one package:

- Completed application (must be typed)
- A current unofficial high school transcript in a sealed school's envelope
- Minimum of three (3) letter of recommendation (one letter must be from someone familiar with student's academic performance and potential). Maximum of four (4) letters will be accepted and may include pastor, local lay president, Church School teacher, high school teacher, etc.
- A 500-word essay, but not to exceed 600 words, on the topic, ***“What role does social media play in your life? How does it influence and impact the AME Church?”*** (The essay must be double-spaced and typed).
- Two (2) photographs, business casual attire - **no** athletic ware (3" x 5" preferred, wallet sizes accepted)
- Applicants may submit in writing any information which would enhance probability of being selected, provided it has not already been covered by the items previously covered.
- An Acceptance Letter from the school attending
- All materials **must be received in the same packet** by the deadline to be considered.

SEE APPLICANT'S CHECK LIST

African Methodist Episcopal Church
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PERSONAL DATA

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

E-mail Address:

Date of Birth:

Male

Female

CHURCH INFORMATION

Name of Local Church:

Address of Local Church:

Local Lay President:

Pastor:

Presiding Bishop:

Episcopal District:

Please list church activities during the past four (4) years. Include local church, conference, district and connectional involvement (attach separate sheets of paper, if necessary):

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Name of High School: Address of High School:

GPA (use 4-point scale):

Class Rank: _____ out of _____ SAT/ACT Score:

What is your intended major course of study and/or career goals?

COPY OF TRANSCRIPT MUST BE ATTACHED

Signature of School Official:

Title:

Date:

List any academic honors received:

Name and address of College/University you plan to attend:

Annual Tuition: \$

Annual Room & Board if you plan to live on campus: \$

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NON-ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS (attached a separate sheet of paper, if necessary) Please list significant school-related extracurricular activities in which you have participated:

List significant non-school extracurricular activities in which you have participated:

List significant volunteer and other extracurricular activities involved in during the past four (4) years:

FAMILY INFORMATION

	Name	Occupation	Annual Salary
Father			\$
Mother			\$

Your Employment Status/Income:

No. of Family Members (incl. parents)

OTHER FINANCIAL AID

List below all financial aid you have been awarded thus far. You are requested to keep the committee informed of any financial aid received.

Name of Award/Grant/Loan	Amount
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Name	Address/Phone	Title/Organization
1 .		
2 .		
3 .		
4 .		

THE INFORMATION REPRESENTED HERE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. PLEASE CHECK CAREFULLY TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE ENTIRE APPLICATION.

Date

Signature

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Connectional Lay Organization

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Veronica Wiley, Chairperson

(334) 300-9527

Mrs. Patricia Wright, Director of Lay Activities

Connectional Lay Organization

African Methodist Episcopal Church

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Applicant's Check List

- Completed application
- Current unofficial high school transcript
- Essay (500-600 words)
- Letters of recommendation (3)
- Two (2) Photographs, business casual attire
- Letter of Acceptance
- Submit **all** materials in the same packet
- Episcopal District's deadline: _____