



Akron  
Urban League

## Akron Urban League Scholarship Program Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Am I eligible to apply for the Akron Urban League Scholarship Program?

- You are eligible to apply if you meet the following requirements:
- You are a high school senior graduating in the spring of 2022 residing in Summit County.
- You have a minimum 2.75 Grade Point Average (GPA).
- You will be enrolled in a full-time degree program at an accredited college or university during the 2022 - 2023 school year.

### 2. Where can I locate the scholarship application?

You can find the online scholarship application here:

<https://forms.gle/bEDTUu6vyhVRWeo5A> or on the Akron Urban League's website: <https://www.akronurbanleague.org/2022-scholarship-program>

### 3. How and where do I submit my application?

Your application must be completed and submitted online through our Google Form. **An application is not deemed as complete without all supporting documents.**

For students who might need guidance or technology assistance, please contact Ariel Whitt, Education Program Specialist, at [awhitt@akronurbanleague.org](mailto:awhitt@akronurbanleague.org) or (234) 542-4140.

### 4. What supporting documents do I need to submit with my application?

- You must upload and include the following documents with the application:
- Typewritten essay based on prompt
- Official high school transcripts

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Expected Family Contribution Number (EFC Number - Found on FAFSA confirmation page)
- Letter of recommendation from a school teacher or counselor
- Recent Headshot of Applicant

## **5. What are the requirements for the essay that I am submitting?**

- The essay should be one-two pages (250 - 500 words).
- The essay should not fall below the minimum page requirement (one page or 250 words) and should not exceed the maximum page requirements (two pages or 500 words).
- Essays should be written in Times New Roman font and double spaced.
- The final document should be uploaded in a pdf format.

## **6. How will my essay be evaluated?**

Your essay will be evaluated by committee members using the evaluation rubric provided with the essay question. The rubric can be found here:

<https://www.akronurbanleague.org/2022-scholarship-program>.

## **7. Where do I get a copy of my official high school transcripts?**

Please reach out to your counselor for specific directions on how to obtain your official high school transcript, as schools may use different platforms to obtain that information.

## **8. Can someone besides my counselor or school teacher write my letter of recommendation?**

No, the letter of recommendation must be written by a high school counselor or a current or past teacher that can speak to your academic achievement and character.

## **9. What will happen if I cannot submit all of the required documents through the electronic application form?**

Our preference is that all documents are submitted together with the application. You may submit additional documents to [awhitt@akronurbanleague.org](mailto:awhitt@akronurbanleague.org) if you cannot upload them with your application. If all documents are not submitted by

February 21st, 2022, your application will be considered incomplete. Therefore, you will be considered ineligible to receive a scholarship.

**10. What type of picture should I submit as a headshot?**

You should submit a recent picture of yourself. A headshot is a tightly cropped photo of your face, from the shoulders up, where you are looking directly in the lens with good lighting on your face. Please see examples below:



**11. What is the submission timeline for my application?**

The application submission window opens on January 20, 2022, and will close on February 21, 2022, at 4:00 pm.

**12. How will I know if my scholarship application is completed and submitted?**

After you submit your online application, a confirmation email will be sent to the inbox of the email address you provided on the form.

**13. After my application is submitted, what are the next steps in the scholarship process?**

After all applications are submitted, the Akron Urban League scholarship committee will review the application and supporting documents. The essays will be reviewed and scored, and candidates who meet the criteria may be contacted to participate in an in-person or virtual interview with the selection committee.

**14. Will my application be evaluated based on merit, need, or both?**

Candidates' applications will be evaluated based on the student's academic success and their needs. The need will be determined based on the applicant's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) number identified from the FAFSA and the pool of applicants.

**15. If I am not selected for an interview, will I be notified?**

Yes, you will receive updates from the Akron Urban League scholarship committee throughout the process to inform you where we are in the selection process. All candidates will be notified no later than April 11, 2022, whether they have been awarded a scholarship.

**16. What should I expect in the interview?**

A panel of volunteer individuals will interview candidates. These individuals may include AUL employees, the AUL Board of Directors, scholarship sponsors, educators across Summit County, and community leaders.

**17. How should I prepare for the interview?**

It would be best if you were prepared to come to your interview professionally dressed, prepared to talk about your academic success and personal achievements, and discuss what you've learned throughout your experience thus far.

**18. How will my interview be evaluated?**

The interview committee will evaluate your Interview. The interview committee will be provided rubrics to score candidates.

**19. When will I be notified whether or not I've been selected for a scholarship?**

No later than April 8, 2022, you will be notified whether you have received a scholarship through the Akron Urban League Annual Scholarship Program.

**20. Am I eligible for a scholarship if I haven't received a college acceptance letter?**

Yes, you may still apply for AUL scholarships if you haven't received a college acceptance letter.

**21. When will my scholarship be awarded?**

The Akron Urban League will Host an award luncheon on April 26, 2022. Candidates will be recognized and awarded at this event. Official scholarship checks will be distributed in July 2022.

**22. How will my scholarship dollars be distributed?**

Official scholarship checks will be mailed to the school or university you identified on your scholarship application in late July 2022. The first half of the scholarship dollar amount is applied in the Fall semester, and the second half of the scholarship dollar amount is applied to the Spring semester.

**23. Can I use my scholarship dollars for anything besides tuition and fees (housing, books, laptop)?**

Scholarship dollars can be used to cover anything that can be incurred on your student account. Typically, students can use scholarship dollars to cover tuition, room and board, and meal plans. Colleges/universities vary in that they may or may not allow you to bill to your student account.

**24. Is my scholarship renewable?**

No, the Akron Urban League scholarship is a one-time scholarship applied to the first two semesters that the student awardee is enrolled in except for full scholarships. Full scholarships are awarded for up to 8 semesters.

**25. Who should I contact if I decide to attend a different school not listed on my original application?**

If you have any changes to your scholarship application, please contact Ariel Whitt, Education Program Specialist, at [awhitt@akronurbanleague.org](mailto:awhitt@akronurbanleague.org) or (234) 542-4140. Please do not resubmit your application.

**26. I am a graduating senior, but I plan to defer college until 2023. Am I still able to apply to the scholarship program?**

No, not currently. Scholarship dollars granted in 2022 must be used for the 2022-2023 school year.

**27. I am a graduating senior, but I plan to attend a trade school. Could I still potentially earn a scholarship?**

Yes, if you are attending an accredited verifiable trade program, you will still be eligible to earn an Akron Urban League scholarship.

**28. I have changed my major/college/university, or there is a change to what is submitted on my application. Who do I contact to let them know of any changes?**

If you have any changes to your scholarship application, please contact Ariel Whitt, Education Program Specialist, at [awhitt@akronurbanleague.org](mailto:awhitt@akronurbanleague.org) or (234) 542-4140. Please do not resubmit your application.

**29. Who do I contact if I have additional questions about the Akron Urban League Annual Scholarship Program?**

If you have additional questions, please contact Ariel Whitt, Education Program Specialist, at [awhitt@akronurbanleague.org](mailto:awhitt@akronurbanleague.org) or (234) 542-4140.

\*Scholarship FAQs will be updated regularly throughout the process as more questions arise. Please check our website regularly for the most up-to-date version of our FAQs.