



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Richland County Alumnae Chapter

PO Box 777

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

January 23, 2020

Dear School Counselor,

The Richland County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is pleased to announce its 2020 Scholarship Program. This year our chapter will award fifteen (15) scholarships in the amount of **\$1,250** each to graduating seniors in Richland, Lexington, Newberry and Fairfield school districts.

All applications will be screened based on financial need, GPA, SAT/ACT scores, the essay, recommendation forms, leadership/extra-curricular activities, class rank and honors/awards.

The application and all materials must be postmarked by March 12, 2020 to be considered. Students may apply for only one scholarship. Incomplete applications will be disqualified.

All awards will be dispersed to the Technical School, College, or University the recipient will attend next fall. The Richland County Alumnae Chapter reserves the right to withhold scholarships if false or misleading information is submitted.

We are excited about this opportunity to provide these scholarships to students in our community, and we appreciate your assistance in making sure they receive the information to apply. Please contact Denise Collier, chairperson of our Scholarship & May Week Committee, to answer any questions or concerns you may have regarding our Scholarship Program via telephone at (803) 238-9155 or email at rca.scholarshipmayweek@gmail.com.

Thank you again for your assistance in helping us to facilitate our Scholarship Program.

Sincerely,

Zenata Donaldson

Zenata Donaldson
Chapter President

The Richland County Alumnae Chapter 2020 Scholarship categories are as follows:

Historically Black College and University Award: This scholarship is a **one-time** award of \$1,250 to a male or female African American student planning to attend a Historically Black College or University.

(3 Scholarships)

Education Award: This scholarship is a **one-time** award of \$1,250 to a male or female African American student planning to major and pursue a career in Education. **(3 Scholarships)**

Career and Technical Education Award: This scholarship is a **one-time** award of \$1,250 to a male or female African American student planning to major, and pursue a career in the following fields: Business Administration, Marketing, Management, Accountancy or Human Resources. **(3 Scholarships)**

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Award: This scholarship is a **one-time** award of \$1,250 to a male or female African American student planning to major and pursue a career in the following fields: Information Technology, Engineering, Math, Science, Medicine or Health Science. **(3 Scholarships)**

General Studies Award: This scholarship is a **one-time** award of \$1,250 to a male or female African American student planning to major and pursue a career in the following majors: Visual and Performing Arts, Mass Communications, Psychology, Sociology, Counseling, Criminal Justice or Law. **(2 Scholarships)**

Delta GEMS Award: This scholarship is a **one-time** award of \$1,250 to a female African American student enrolled in the Delta GEMS program with Richland County Alumnae Chapter. **Student must be enrolled in the Delta GEMS program sponsored by Richland County Alumnae chapter at Keenan High School to qualify. (1 Scholarship)**

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INSTRUCTIONS for APPLICANT

1. Attach the following to completed Application:

- (A) An **ESSAY (250-word minimum & typed double spaced)** based on the scholarship you are applying for. **Student's name should be on each page of essay.**

Historically Black College and University Award:

Before desegregation in the nation's educational system, HBCUs were the only way that most African Americans could receive undergraduate degrees. In your opinion, why is the HBCU education still a better option for you today?

Career and Technical Education Award:

Since African Americans are underrepresented in these careers, discuss the need for minorities in this discipline and the impact your degree will have on your community.

STEM Award (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Why are you STEM inspired? Discuss the impact your prospective career will have on the African American community.

Education Award:

The high school dropout rate for minority students is at an all-time high. There is a serious need for education leaders, teachers and parents to take an active interest in the well-being of children. Discuss how your career as an educator will help improve the "education quality of life" for minority students.

General Studies Award:

Discuss the factors that influenced your decision to pursue a career in Humanities and Social Science. Describe your career goals and how your college education will help you give back or serve your community.

Delta GEMS Award:

Based on your participation in the Delta Gems program, describe one important concept you have learned in the program and how you intend to apply this in your future field of study. **(NOTE: Only students enrolled in the Delta GEMS Program through Richland County Alumnae Chapter at Keenan High School may apply.)**

- (B) An **ACCEPTANCE LETTER** from an accredited College, University or Technical College.

2. Two (2) **RECOMMENDATION FORMS** (enclosed) to be completed and submitted by **one teacher and one person in your community not affiliated with your high school.**

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3. The completed application MUST be **postmarked** by **March 12, 2020**. Please refer to the Scholarship Application Checklist to ensure packet is accurate and complete before mailing. Incomplete applications will be disqualified.
4. Applications will be screened according to the following criteria:
 - a) Financial need
 - b) GPA
 - c) SAT/ACT Scores
 - d) Recommendation Forms
 - e) Leadership/extra-curricular activities form w/ sponsor's signature. **Copies of the form can be made if needed**
 - f) Class Rank
 - g) Essay
 - h) Honors/Awards w/ sponsor's signature
5. Scholarship recipients or designee must be present at the Sorority's May Week Program on Thursday May 7, 2020 at 6:00 pm to receive official Certificate of Award. All awards will be dispersed to the Technical School, College or University the recipient will attend.
6. Send completed application with attachments to:

**Richland County Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
ATTN: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 777
Columbia, South Carolina 29202**

Scholarship Essay Rubric

The Scholarship Essay Rubric will be used to screen all essays submitted.

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Weak
Content	<p>-Thoroughly Answered</p> <p>-All components of the question were answered in detail</p> <p>8 pts</p>	<p>-Very well answered</p> <p>-All components of the question were answered</p> <p>6 pts</p>	<p>-Sufficiently answered</p> <p>-Most components of the question were answered</p> <p>4 pts</p>	<p>-Poorly answered</p> <p>-Information is not relevant to the topic</p> <p>2 pts</p>
Organization	<p>-Very well organized and logical</p> <p>-Transitions are consistently present and varied</p> <p>4 pts</p>	<p>-Well organized and logical</p> <p>-Transitions present, mostly varied and consistent</p> <p>3 pts</p>	<p>-Somewhat organized and logical</p> <p>-Transitions present but inconsistent and weak</p> <p>2 pts</p>	<p>-Lacks organization</p> <p>-No transitions present</p> <p>1 pt</p>
Spelling & Grammar	<p>Detailed attention Given to grammar structures and spelling</p> <p>4 pts</p>	<p>Attention given to grammar structures and spelling</p> <p>3 pts</p>	<p>Some attention given to grammar structures and spelling</p> <p>2 pts</p>	<p>Little attention given to grammar structures and spelling</p> <p>1 pt</p>

**RICHLAND COUNTY ALUMNAE
CHAPTER
DELTA SIGMA THETA
SORORITY, INC.**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address (print clearly): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Sex: F ___ M ___ Race: _____

Name and address of school currently attending: _____

Name of School Counselor: _____ Phone: _____

Date of Graduation: _____

College/University in which applicant plans to enroll: _____

Acceptance Date: _____ Intended Major: _____

Scholarship applying for: _____

(Please select only one)

Mother's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Father's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Guardian Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Please indicate parent's yearly income before taxes (your personal income if supporting self and living away from family)

Mother's Income: \$ _____ Self: \$ _____

Father's Income: \$ _____ Total: \$ _____

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Benefits:

Public Assistance: \$ _____ Social Security: \$ _____

Veterans: \$ _____

List name(s) and age(s) of all dependent children in your family:

Name:	Age:
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____

Please give the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the two persons completing the letter of Recommendation Forms. **Family members should not serve as either of your references.**

1. Name: _____ Phone: _____

2. Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Code

3. Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Code

I hereby declare that the information contained in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Recommendation Form

(Teacher)

Applicant's Name: _____

How well do you know the applicant? (Please check one)

- Very well (More than one year)
 Fairly well (More than one semester)
 Not very well (Less than one semester)

Please evaluate the applicant using the statements provided below. Please check the statements, which best describe the applicant in relation to students, academics and extra-curriculum activities. Please check only one response for each statement.

	<u>Not</u>	<u>Below</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Above</u>
	<u>Observed</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Average</u>
Makes friends easily.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Shows interest & concerns for the welfare of others.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Influences other students to work together.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Communicates effectively orally.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Communicates effectively in written work.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sets an example of good conduct for other students.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Exerts maximum effort, showing a strong desire to achieve	_____	_____	_____	_____
Shows self-control & performs well, even under pressure.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Adjusts to demanding schedule of activities without neglect to school work.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Seeks academic challenge beyond that required by normal course work.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sets high standards for own performance in a number of areas and activities.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Accepts constructive criticism & makes improvements from it.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Accepts full responsibility for personal shortcomings.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Teaches practical skills to others.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Participates in extracurricular activities.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Serves in leadership capacity in school organizations.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Is an all-around good volunteer and individual.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Briefly explain why you think applicant should receive this award. _____

Teacher's Name: (Please Print) _____ Email

Address _____

Phone: _____

Teacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Recommendation Form

(Individual in Community)

Applicant's Name: _____

How well do you know the applicant? (Please check one)

- Very well (More than one year)
 Fairly well (More than one semester)
 Not very well (Less than one semester)

Please evaluate the applicant using the statements provided below. Please check the statements, which best describe the applicant in relation to students, academics and extra-curriculum activities. Please check only one response for each statement.

	<u>Not</u>	<u>Below</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Above</u>
	<u>Observed</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Average</u>
Demonstrates interest in community.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Shows interest & concerns for the welfare of others.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Influences other students to work together.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Communicates effectively orally.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Communicates effectively in written work.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sets an example of good conduct for other students.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Exerts maximum effort, showing a strong desire to achieve.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Shows self-control & performs well, even under pressure.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Makes friends easily.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Is a positive role model.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Accepts constructive criticism & makes improvements from it.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Accepts full responsibility for personal shortcomings.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Teaches practical skills to others.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Seeks challenges beyond those normally required.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Eagerly volunteers to help out.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Exhibits strong moral character.	_____	_____	_____	_____
Is an all-around good volunteer and individual.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Briefly explain why you think applicant should receive this award. _____

Evaluator's Name: (Please Print) _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Evaluator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Richland County Alumnae Chapter * Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
 Post Office Box 777 * Columbia South Carolina 29202
 Website: www.richlandcountydeltas.org

Richland County Alumnae Chapter * Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Club/Organization Form

List all school, community and church clubs, organizations and activities you have been involved in since your freshman year. **Sponsor's signature required for verification and credit.**

Club/Organization or Activity	Date Involved	Office Held	Year(s) Office Held	Sponsor's Signature (REQUIRED)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

List all honors and awards received from school and community clubs, organizations and activities. **Sponsor's signature required for verification and credit.**

Honor or Award	Date of Honor or Award	Counselor's or Sponsor's Signature (REQUIRED)
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please verify your application is accurate and complete by ensuring all information below is in your packet when mailed:

- ❑ Application signed and all information complete
- ❑ Recommendation Forms enclosed, signed, and completed by a teacher and an individual in the community
- ❑ 250-word minimum essay (typed double spaced) enclosed. Student's name should be on each page of the essay
- ❑ Acceptance letter from an accredited college, university, or technical college enclosed
- ❑ Club/Organization form completed with dates of participation and all activities signed by your school counselor or sponsor
- ❑ Official transcript
- ❑ **Printed copy of SAT/ACT scores** enclosed including class rank, GPA
- ❑ School Counselor Form

Please check all pieces before submitting i.e., transcripts, letters, etc. Please note that items do not have to be in a separate sealed envelope.

If possible, mail all materials together in one packet to ensure documents arrive on time.

REMINDER: Completed applications must be postmarked by March 12, 2020 in order to be considered for scholarships. Incomplete applications will be disqualified.

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School Counselor's Form

Applicant Name: _____ Sex: F ___ M ___

High School Currently Enrolled: _____

Applicant's Highest SAT Score: _____

Applicant's Highest ACT Score: _____

Applicant's Grade Point Average (on a 5.0 scale) _____

Applicant's Class Rank: _____ out of _____ students.

School Counselor's Name: _____

School Counselor's Email Address: _____

School Counselor's Signature: _____

Phone Number: () _____ Date: _____

The applicant must submit the following with their application.

- (A) An official transcript including class rank, GPA, and SAT/ACT results.
- (B) A list of clubs, organization, and activities applicant has participated in along with all honors and/or awards received. If extra-curricular activities are not posted as part of the official transcript, applicant must complete the enclosed form. The school counselor or sponsor must review, and sign the form. **This is Mandatory.**
- (C) Forms **MUST** be **POSTMARKED** by **March 12, 2020**

Mail to: **Richland County Alumnae Chapter**
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Attn: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Post Office Box 777
Columbia, South Carolina 29202