



CSSF APPLICATION



Caribbean Students' Scholarship Fund Application

Dear Scholarship Fund Inc. Applicant:

On behalf of the CSSF, Inc. Board of Directors, we applaud your efforts to pursue a college education. Your interest in applying for this scholarship shows that you have decided to positively shaping your future through higher education. We are dedicated to providing opportunities for students like you.

Please keep in mind that most scholarship programs, including ours, are highly competitive. To ensure that your application receives full consideration, we suggest you:

- 1. Carefully read the eligibility requirements.*
- 2. Follow the application instructions.*
- 3. Have a colleague proofread your work.*

Applicants are held responsible for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of all information submitted in the application.

We understand how important this process is to you and your family; therefore, we take great care in reviewing each application. We wish you much luck and success!

SCHOLARSHIP PURPOSE

The Caribbean Students' Scholarship Fund, Inc. is a need-based scholarship program designed to invest in the academic success of our community's youth. Beyond financial support, the CSSF, Inc. cultivates a fellowship grounded in longstanding Caribbean traditionals – empowering scholars to serve the community, apply their talents with purpose, and carry forward the rich legacy of the Caribbean.

ELIGIBILITY

To be considered, the applicant must meet **ALL** of the following criteria:

- **Be of Caribbean heritage**
- ***Be a U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident***
- Be a current high school senior or high school graduate possessing a General Equivalency Diploma.
- Demonstrate financial need (*please see checklist requirements below*)
- Plan to enroll or is enrolled as a full-time student for the 2026-2027 academic year at an accredited two- or four-year institution of higher education or in a vocational institution.
- Legally resides in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area (Maryland, Northern Virginia or the District of Columbia).
- Possess a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Not be a previous recipient.

ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The following scholarships are also available for individuals of Caribbean descent.

- [West Indian American Military Members Association Scholarship](#) (WIAMMA)
- Dr. Keith and Berna Warner Scholarship

APPLICATION PROCESS

All current scholarship recipients are required to perform at least two (2) community service events sponsored by the CSSF, Inc. that are deemed necessary by the membership. Scholarship recipients from the previous year should return, become acquainted and share their experiences with the newly selected candidates. Prior scholarship recipient(s) must be prepared to formally introduce the new candidates.

All application materials must be received by February 27, 2026. There are three ways to submit your application:

Online Submission: Complete this online application and upload the required documents. Letters of reference must be mailed separately in sealed envelopes to the following address:

**Caribbean Students' Scholarship Fund, Inc.,
2125 Countryside Drive,
Silver Spring, MD 20905**

Mail Submission: Download the application from <https://www.cssfinc.org/applications.html>.
Complete and mail your completed application and required documents to:

**Caribbean Students' Scholarship Fund, Inc.,
2125 Countryside Drive,
Silver Spring, MD 20905**

Email Submission: Email your completed application with required documents as attachments to caribbeanstudentsscholarships@gmail.com. Letters of reference must be mailed in sealed envelopes to the CSSF office at the address listed above.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 27TH, 2026.

SELECTION & NOTIFICATION

Based on the above criteria, scholarship recipients will be selected by the Caribbean Students' Scholarship Fund, Inc. Advisory Board. Applicants will be notified in writing by MARCH 13th, 2026. Selected candidates must be available for an interview via Zoom with the CSSF, Inc., Advisory Board on APRIL 11TH, 2026.

Have you previously applied for a scholarship from the Caribbean Students' Scholarship Fund Inc. (CSSF, Inc.)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

FULL NAME: _____

APPLICATION DATE: _____

APPLICANT DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

APPLICANT AGE: _____

APPLICANT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____

FULL ADDRESS (*while at school*). Please include city, state and zip code:

HOME ADDRESS Please include city, state and zip code:

APPLICANT CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

APPLICANT PRIMARY EMAIL. This is the email that will be used by the CSSF, Inc. Advisory Board to communicate with you about the status of your application:

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

FALL 2026 ACADEMIC LEVEL*

☐

Community College

☐

Vocational School

IF YOU ARE ATTENDING A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, PLEASE INDICATE YOUR YEAR:*

☐

1st Year

☐

2nd Year

☐

3rd Year

☐

Not Applicable

IF YOU ARE ATTENDING A FOUR YEAR COLLEGE, PLEASE INDICATE YOUR CLASS:*

☐

Freshman

☐

Sophomore

☐

Junior

☐

Senior

☐

Not Applicable

NAME OF INSTITUTION WHERE YOU WILL BE ENROLLED IN FALL 2026. PLEASE DO NOT ABBREVIATE THE NAME.

INSTITUTION FULL ADDRESS (please include city, state and zip code):*

IF TRANSFERRING DURING THE WINTER/SPRING 2026 ACADEMIC YEAR, PLEASE LIST THE INSTITUTION THAT YOU ARE TRANSFERRING TO. PLEASE DO NOT ABBREVIATE THE NAME.

DATE OF TRANSFER: _____

CARIBBEAN LINEAGE

FAMILY NET INCOME: _____

MATERNAL LINEAGE (birthplace including country). This can include your mother or grandmother.

PATERNAL LINEAGE (birthplace including country). This can include your father or grandfather.

NUMBER OF DEPENDANTS CURRENTLY IN COLLEGE, INCLUDING YOURSELF:

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Please provide information on your experiences for each area listed below on a separate sheet. Be as specific as possible regarding dates and the length and depth of your activities. Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Please upload your resume/profile to this application.

- **Work experience**
- **Community/service activities**

- Honors & awards received
- Career goals

WORK EXPERIENCE: Please attach the most recent copy of your resume or CV with your application.

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Please list your community service and activities over the last two years. Use a separate sheet, if needed.

CAREER GOALS - Please provide a short statement (no less than 350 words) about your career goals. Use a separate sheet, if needed.

HONORS & AWARDS Please list any awards and honors received in the last two years. Indicate the name of the award and when it was awarded. Use a separate sheet, if needed.

APPLICANT MARITAL STATUS*

☐

Single

☐

Married

☐

Widow

☐

Divorced

☐

Separated

ESSAY TOPICS

Write an essay in no less than 500 words on one of the following topics. Please be prepared to adequately discuss your topic.

1. Some universities have faced challenges in limiting the number of international students that they accept. How do you think this would impact higher-education opportunities for prospective international students in the future and what options might be available to them?
2. What values shared in your family have influenced you and how do plan to embrace and carry them forward in the future?
3. Describe your most significant community service experience and explain how it has influenced your decision to pursue your chosen field of study. How will you use the skills and knowledge you gained to give back to your community or society?

APPLICATION CERTIFICATION & RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Please check all the boxes below to certify that: *

☐

All the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

☐

I meet all eligibility requirements as specified in this application and the accompanying instructions.

☐

I understand that application materials become the property of CSSF, Inc. and will not be returned.

☐

I hereby authorize CSSF Inc. to share and or publish my GPA, application, essay, photos/videos for the purpose of evaluation, recruitment, public relations, possible employment, or any other related activity.

☐

I understand that I must notify CSSF, Inc. of any changes in my enrollment status. I also understand that a change in full-time status may result in the cancellation of any award.

FINAL REVIEW & CHECKLIST

Please check each of the following required documents before submitting your application:

- Completed and signed application.
- Essay (not less than 500 words).
- High school transcript/GPA Certification Form (this may also be forwarded directly from your current school).
- Two (2) written references (under confidential cover).
- A complete, signed and dated copy of most recent Income Tax Form 1040;
- Copies of three (3) Pay-stubs; Bank Statement; Income record for both parents(if applicable);
- Copy of FAFSA, CSS Profile or Statement of financial need.

CSSF applications are available at cssfinc1@cssfinc.org. For consideration, all applications must be postmarked by Feb 27th 2026. Mailing Address:

Caribbean Student's Scholarship Fund Inc.,
2125 Countryside Drive,
Silver Spring, MD 20905