



Siloam Baptist Church

God's House of Hope, Healing and Wholeness

1329 Willow Street * Norristown, PA 19401 * 610-275-8163

Reverend John H. West III, Pastor

February 1, 2025

Siloam Baptist Church William R. Harris Scholarship Award

Introduction

The Siloam Baptist Church William R. Harris Scholarship Award is available to graduating high school seniors who are attending members of the Siloam Baptist Church and plan to further their education by attending a college, university, or an accredited trade school of their choice.

The submission of an application does not automatically result in the award of a scholarship. This is a competitive process. To ensure that your application is included in the scholarship award competition, please read and comply with the instructions below.

Please note that the completed application and all attachments must be clean, neat, and legible.

A complete package must include the following:

- Part I – the Application – submit on or before the deadline shown below. Late applications will not be considered.
 - Applications can be obtained on the church website (www.siloambc.org), via e-mail (info@siloambc.org), or from the church office at 1329 Willow Street, Norristown, PA 19401, telephone 610-275-8163.
 - Complete the entire application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
 - Neatly type or write your full name on every page of the application.
- Part II – Transcript and Recommendations – submit to your school's college guidance counselor or other school official who is responsible for assisting students with college admissions. **This should be done immediately in order to allow enough time for documents to be received, reviewed, and attached to the application.**

- Two signed letters of recommendation – **not from relatives.**
 - One letter of recommendation must be from a school official (Ex. principal, counselor, teacher, dean, etc.).
 - The second letter must be from an adult who knows you well (Ex. coach, instructor, employer, counselor).
- An official sealed high school transcript mailed directly to the Siloam Baptist Church office, at the address on page 6.
- A letter of acceptance from the college/university you plan to attend.
- A one to two page/s double spaced, using Times New Roman 12 point font, typed personal essay as specified on page 5 of the application. Be sure to include your full name at the top of the essay on each page and page of the application.

It is best to work with the college guidance counselor to ensure that your application package has been completed and submitted in a timely manner.

The Decision Process: Awards will be based on the content of the essays, GPA, notable achievements, letters of recommendation, and church /community involvement. **Recipients will be notified by email or phone on or before May 27, 2025. If a selected scholarship recipient fails to respond to the telephone and/or email notification within five business days, the award will be forfeited.**

- **The entire completed scholarship package must be received in the church office no later than April 11, 2025.**
- **Application Packages that are incomplete or are received after this date/time will not be considered.**

SILOAM BAPTIST CHURCH
WILLIAM R. HARRIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION

Completed Application Packages must be received in the Church Office no later than April 11, 2025.

Part 1. To be completed by the Student Applicant

Applicant's Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Name and Address of Your High School

Principal's Full Name _____

Principal's Email _____

Guidance Counselor's Full Name _____

Guidance Counselor's Email _____

Parents' or Guardians' Full Names _____

Parents' or Guardians' Telephone _____

Pastor's Full Name _____

Pastor's Signature _____

Church Name _____

Church Address _____

1. Full name, daytime telephone number, and email address of the person writing your Letter of Recommendation #1. How do you know this person?

Applicant's Full Name _____

2. Full name, daytime telephone number, and email address of the person writing your Letter of Recommendation #2. How do you know this person?

3. What college, university, or accredited trade school do you plan to attend during the 2025–2026 academic year? Include city and state.

4. Did you work during high school? If so, please include the name of your employer, your title and responsibilities, dates of employment, and whether it was full time or part time.

Employer #1

Employer #2

Employer #3

5. List your extra-curricular activities (Ex. student government, clubs, sports, scouting, and hobbies).

Applicant's Full Name _____

6. Describe your participation in spiritual and community service activities, youth and professional organizations, and any other volunteer activities.

7. Describe all honors and awards you have received from school, church, or the community.

ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

The theme is ***“Well Done”***. In addition to providing a brief biographical sketch and career goals, your essay should incorporate the theme. Specifically, you should address what the theme means to you, how it applies as you reflect on your experiences, personal growth or how it applies as you plan educational and life goals, etc. Read Ephesians 2:10 to help in the formulation of your essay.

The essay must be on a separate 8.5” x 11” sheet of plain bond, with your full name at the top page/s. Please be sure to type double space, using Times New Roman 12 point font. See attached essay rubric for guidelines to compose your essay.

Part II. Transcript and Recommendations - To be completed by an authorized school official (i.e. principal, counselor, teacher, advisor, etc.)

Applicant's Full Name _____

Applicant's GPA _____

To the School Official who is submitting the applicant's transcript, please indicate the date when the official sealed school transcript was mailed to Siloam Baptist Church.

Date _____

Your full name _____

Title _____

Daytime phone number _____

Email address _____

To those who are providing a letter of recommendation, please ensure that the signed and dated letter includes your full name, title, daytime telephone number, and email address. Give the recommendation to the student unless you will be assisting the student with compiling his/her complete application package. In that case, just add it to the package.

All applications, references and transcripts must be received in the office of Siloam Baptist Church by April 11, 2025.

Please mail the completed package to:

**Siloam Baptist Church
Education Ministry
1329 Willow Street
Norristown, PA 19401-3327**

For More Information:

Siloam Baptist Church
Web Page: www.siloambc.org
Email address: info@siloambc.org
Phone: 610-275-8163
Fax: 610-275-0826

Essay Rubric

Directions: Use this rubric as a guide when writing your essay and check it again before you submit your essay.

Traits	4	3	2	1
Focus & Details	There is one clear, well focused topic. Main ideas are clear and are well supported by detailed and accurate information.	There is one clear, well focused topic. Main ideas are clear but are not well supported by detailed information.	There is one topic. Main ideas are somewhat clear.	The topic and main ideas are not clear.
Organization	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic, and provides an overview of the paper. Information is relevant and presented in a logical order. The conclusion is strong.	The introduction states the main topic and provides an overview of the paper. A conclusion is included.	The introduction states the main topic. A conclusion is included.	There is no clear introduction, structure, or conclusion.
Voice	The author's purpose of writing is very clear, and there is strong evidence of attention to audience. The author's extensive knowledge and/or experience with the topic is/are evident.	The author's purpose of writing is somewhat clear, and there is some evidence of attention to audience. The author's knowledge and/or experience with the topic is/are evident.	The author's purpose of writing is somewhat clear, and there is evidence of attention to audience. The author's knowledge and/or experience with the topic is/are limited.	The author's purpose of writing is unclear.
Word Choice	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words seems accurate, natural, and not forced.	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words is inaccurate at times and/or seems overdone.	The author uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety.	The writer uses a limited vocabulary. Jargon or clichés may be present and detract from the meaning.
Sentence Structure, Grammar, Mechanics, & Spelling	All sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes no errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes a few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling, but they do not interfere with understanding.	Most sentences are well constructed, but they have a similar structure and/or length. The author makes several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.	Sentences sound awkward, are distractingly repetitive, or are difficult to understand. The author makes numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.
Reviewer's Comments	All submitted essays should be typed using Times New Roman 12 point font, double spaced, and 1-2 pages in length. Any form of plagiarism will forfeit your opportunity to receive a financial award from our church. This is your guide to assist with composing your essay. Thank you for adhering to the directions, and we look forward to reading your essay.			

***Do not include this rubric with your submitted materials.**