



Piedmont Chapter of The Links, Incorporated  
2024 Scholarship Application  
Packet



Application Deadline: **March 31, 2024 11:59pm**

Piedmont Chapter  
The Links, Incorporated  
PO Box 1672  
Gastonia, North Carolina 28053



Piedmont Chapter  
The Links, Incorporated  
2024 Scholarship Application

Dear Applicant,

The Links, Incorporated is an international, not-for-profit corporation, established in 1946. The membership consists of nearly 17,000 professional women of color in 299 chapters located in 41 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, and the United Kingdom. It is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of extraordinary women, who are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry.

The members of The Links, Incorporated are influential decision makers and opinion leaders. The Links, Inc. has attracted many distinguished women who are individual achievers and have made a difference in their communities and the world. We are business and civic leaders, role models, mentors, activists and volunteers who work towards a common vision, by engaging like-minded organizations and individuals in community service rendering partnerships. Links members contribute more than 500,000 documented hours of community service annually – strengthening our communities and enhancing the nation.

The Piedmont Chapter of The Links, Incorporated is committed to contributing to the growth and development of area students by awarding scholarships to students residing in Gaston, Catawba and Cleveland Counties. The National Center for Education Statistics reports a continued pronounced racial gap in college and university enrollment between African American students and their Caucasian counterparts. In an effort to encourage and to assist in the continuing education of young African American men and women, this year the chapter will award **three (3) scholarships in the amount of \$750.00 each**. The scholarship may be used to assist with tuition, purchase of books, food, lodging and/or transportation.

Thank you for your interest in our scholarship program. Application completion information and the application form is included in this packet.

*Piedmont Chapter of The Links, Incorporated  
2024 Scholarship Committee*

### **Application Instructions:**

The application should be completed and submitted on or before **March 31, 2024, at 11:59pm**. The completed application, transcripts and letters of recommendation must be received by **March 31, 2024**, in order to be reviewed by the scholarship committee. **Late applications and information received after the deadline will not be accepted for scholarship review.**

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

To be eligible for a 2024 Piedmont Chapter Scholarship, a student must:

1. Be a resident of Gaston, Catawba or Cleveland Counties; and
2. Be a graduating African American high school senior that has been accepted to a college or university for the coming fall semester; or
3. Be a current African American college student in good academic standing with the college or university, and
4. Submit a completed 2024 Piedmont Chapter Scholarship application, including a copy of transcript, a recent headshot photograph, and two letters of recommendation by the established deadline (March 31, 2024)

### **The Application:**

1. The application packet is available directly from a member of the Piedmont Chapter of The Links, Incorporated or from a member of one of our local civic organizations or churches.
2. Applications should be either typed (electronic application is a fillable document) or neatly printed using black or blue ink.
3. All applications are to be signed and dated by applicant. Parent or legal guardian's signature is required for applicants under 18 years of age.
4. Letters of recommendation should include statements relative to the applicant's qualities, accomplishments, contributions and/or personal characteristics. Letters must include signature and position of person writing the letter. An electronic signature is acceptable.
5. Transcript(s), letters of recommendation, and letter of acceptance or verification of current/continued enrollment in college or university, must be included in the application packet. An application checklist is included to assist with organizing your application.
6. A recent photo (school picture type) should be submitted with the application to be used for publicity purposes only. Photo specifications are outlined on the *Application Checklist*.

Piedmont Chapter  
 The Links, Incorporated  
**2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**  
 PO Box 1672  
 Gastonia, North Carolina 28053

The Scholarship Committee will review all completed applications, transcripts and recommendation letters received by **March 31, 2024**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

PERSONAL INFORMATION		
Name of Applicant		Date of Birth
Permanent Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Home Telephone Number		Cell Phone Number
Email Address		
Name of Parent(s)/Guardians		
ACADEMIC PROFILE		
Name of High School		City/State
High School Graduation Date		GPA

Name of College or University (Presently attending or Plan to attend)	Major/Intended Area of Study
---	------------------------------

**HONORS & RECOGNITIONS**

List any honors and other recognitions you have received:

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

List any extracurricular activities, organizations, offices, positions, and employment (a resume may be attached for this section); indicate "see attached resume."

**ESSAY**

Please respond in writing to the following two (2) questions:

1. How would this scholarship benefit your educational pursuits?
2. What does civil discourse mean to you? Discuss how one engages in civil discourse without being overtly offensive.

(Essay guidelines: Essay may not exceed one (1) typed 8 1/2 x 11 sized, 12-point font, double spaced page per question. Use a separate page to respond to each essay question and attach to completed application)

**DISCLOSURE**

*I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that would jeopardize inclusion of this application. Submission of inaccurate or incomplete information will result in disqualification or forfeiture of any award.*

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



Piedmont Chapter  
The Links Incorporated  
2024 Scholarship Checklist

	Completed/Signed application (Due date March 31, 2024)
	Transcript (most recent)
	1 personal letter of recommendation from school official, teacher or administrator Letter must include signature and position of person writing letter. An electronic signature is acceptable.
	1 personal letter of recommendation from community or civic leader Letter must include signature and position of person writing letter. An electronic signature is acceptable.
	Response to Essay Question
	Letter of acceptance from college/university (high school applicants).
	Verification of university enrollment status (current college students-2024-2025 year).
	Photograph (headshot only): The headshot can be a school photo or a photo taken with a camera and not a cell phone. Photos must be 300 dpi, CMYK and saved in the following formats, JPG, TIFF or PDF. Photos will be used for publicity purposes only.
	<p>Completed application packets are to be mailed by <b>March 31, 2024</b> to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mrs. Brett Barber</b> <b>7615 Windsor Forest Place</b> <b>Harrisburg, NC 28075</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">or emailed to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="mailto:scholarships704@gmail.com">scholarships704@gmail.com</a></p>