

The HigherEd Ministry of the Agape Family Worship Center

"Helping Individuals to Gain a Higher Education Responsibly, Effectively, and Decisively"

Dr. Lawrence Powell, Sr. Pastor
Dr. Terri Davis, Scholarship Coordinator

AFWC 2026-27 Scholarships – General Information

The purpose of the HigherEd Ministry is to assist individuals in pursuing post-secondary education. This year, we are pleased to announce nine (9) competitive scholarship opportunities being made available to the members of the Agape Family Worship Center (AFWC).

1. **The Tonyell McDay Computer Science Scholarship:** A \$500 tuition and room/board scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in the computer science field. This gift is given by the family of Sis. Tonyell McDay. She was a computer science major and among those who perished in the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center.
2. **The Willie Lee Jones Trade Industry Scholarship:** A one-time \$1,000 tuition scholarship will be awarded to a student pursuing a trade certificate at an accredited vocational-technical training school or an applied associate degree at a community college within the first two years of graduating high school. The scholarship is named in memory of Deacon Willie Lee Jones, who served in Agape leadership and was a long-time truck driver in the transportation industry.
3. **The Barbara Owens Hayward Service Scholarship:** A \$1,000 tuition and room/board scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior or current college student who demonstrates outstanding leadership and service in his/her school or community. This scholarship is named in memory of Minister Barbara Owens Hayward, who was the founder of the Agape Children's Church and Drama Ministry. She was also a dedicated teacher in the public school system.
4. **The Agape Scholars Book Award:** A \$600 book scholarship will be awarded to a limited number of individuals to help defray the cost of books and school-related learning supplies. Students must be degree-seeking candidates who are full-time or part-time students enrolled in or accepted to an accredited university, 4-year or community college at the undergraduate or graduate level. ***Recipients must achieve a 2.5 in their freshman year, a 2.8 as upperclassmen, and a 3.0 as graduate students.***
5. **The Izlar-Coleman Scholarship:** a \$500 tuition and room/board scholarship will be awarded to one student who demonstrates perseverance in the pursuit of his/her educational goals. This gift is in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert S. Coleman, Sr., and Justin Coleman, who were beloved family members of Bro. Al and Sis. Audrietta Izlar. Each of them was a great proponent of education.
6. **The James H. Collins Book Scholarship:** a \$500 book scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in mass media or mass communication. This gift is given by an Agape member and former Agape Scholar, Sis. Niasha Collins, in loving memory of her father, Mr. James Collins, who was a long-time member of Agape and the Media Ministry until his passing. Bro. James "looked forward to working the cameras" and certainly loved being a part of the Agape Media team. ***Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.***
7. **The Sherrell J Educational Fund Scholarship:** a \$500 tuition and room/board scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in Theatre Arts, Acting, or Music. The gift is given by an Agape member and former Agape Scholar, Sis. Sherrell Johnson (Sherrell J, Inc.). ***Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.0 (B) grade point average and maintain a 3.0 (B) grade point average during the award year.***
8. **The Rey Jude Math & Science Scholarship:** a \$500 tuition and room/board scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in the math or science field. This gift is given by Dr. Odessa McNeill—Agape member, ministry leader, and elder—in loving memory of her son, Mr. Rey Jude. Bro. Rey was a math scholar who became a chemist.
9. **The Rev. Louisa M. Martin High School Excellence Scholarship:** a one-time \$1,000 room/board scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior who lives on campus while attending an out-of-state four-year college/university for the first year. The gift is given in loving memory of Rev. Louis M. Martin, an outstanding educator who often traveled from New England to volunteer her financial aid expertise to the HigherEd Ministry. ***Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.5 (A-/B+) grade point average and maintain a 3.0 (B) grade point average during the award year.***

Eligibility

All scholarship applicants must be active members of AFWC. They must be in good academic standing with a minimum of 2.5 (high school), 2.8 (undergraduate), and 3.0 (graduate students), except where noted, as some scholarships may have specific requirements for award consideration.

Application Process

Eligible candidates must submit this application form and return it together with all required supporting documents as a complete application package. New students must also submit a copy of their letter of acceptance from the college or graduate school they plan to attend. Returning students must submit a copy of their enrollment verification form for the upcoming academic year.

Application Deadline

A complete application package containing the application and all supporting documents must be mailed together and **postmarked no later than June 10, 2026.**

Award Specifications

The number of scholarships awarded will depend upon the amount of funding made available for the academic year, as well as the size of the applicant pool. Therefore, these scholarship opportunities are competitive and are not guaranteed for all who apply. Incomplete application packages that are submitted without an explanation for missing required information will not be considered for review.

Scholarship award letters along with scholarship acceptance forms will be mailed on or about June 25, 2026.

Please note: Scholarships are disbursed per semester (fall and spring). All monies are made payable to the institution and not the individual unless monies are being disbursed as a reimbursement.

For More Information

All questions and concerns may be directed to **highered@agapecenter.org**.

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Agape 2026-27 Scholarship Application

Student Information

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail: _____

Year of Birth: _____ Member of AFWC since (date): _____

Parent Information

If the applicant is a legal dependent of his or her parent/guardian, please complete the information below.

Name(s): _____

Address (if different from applicant): _____

Home Telephone: _____

School Information

Name of institution attending: _____

Address: _____

Phone number of financial aid office: _____

Financial aid contact person (if known): _____

Total annual cost of tuition _____ room & board _____ books _____

Classification: ___ Freshman ___ Sophomore ___ Junior ___ Senior ___ Graduate

Attendance status: _____ Full-time _____ Part-time

Degree sought: ___ Vo-Tech Certificate ___ Associates ___ Bachelors ___ Masters ___ Doctorate

Major _____ Minor (if applicable) _____

What other financial assistance (i.e., loans, scholarships, grants) have you received? _____

Employment & Extracurricular Activities

Are you currently employed? No Yes (Part-time Full-time)

If yes, where are you employed? _____

Do you plan to work while attending school? _____

List extracurricular activities (sports, clubs, volunteer efforts, etc.)

List any organizations in which you are currently active:

What ministries are you involved in at Agape? _____

Scholarship Selection

I am applying for the following scholarship(s):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tonyell McDay Computer Science Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> James H. Collins Book Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Willie Lee Jones Trade Industry Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> Sherrell J Educational Fund Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Owens Hayward Service Scholarship | <input type="checkbox"/> Rey Jude Math & Science Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agape Scholars Book Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Rev. Louisa M Martin High School Excellence Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coleman-Izlar Scholarship | |

Letters of Recommendation

New applicants must submit two letters of recommendation. One may be from a teacher, counselor, employer, or community activist. The second must be from a ministry leader at the Agape Family Worship Center. **Current scholarship applicants need only submit one letter of recommendation** from either of the two previously mentioned categories.

Essay

An essay is required of all new applicants, who must select from either essay #1 or #2. Current scholarship recipients (re)applying for scholarships other than the Agape Scholars Book Award must respond to essay #3 (no essay is required from current Agape Scholars who are only applying for the book award). A critique of essays will be based on content, clarity of thought, spelling, grammar, and punctuation. **Please be sure it is typewritten, double-spaced, and ranging between 250-500 words.**

- Using your current involvement at Agape, as well as within other community organizations, describe how your service to others relates to your personal aspirations and educational goals. (New Applicants only)
- Consider an individual who has served as a role model for you. How have they influenced your Christian Walk, academic interests, and professional aspirations? (New Applicants only)
- As a current Agape Scholar, how did a college/graduate school experience you had this academic year shape your personal growth, leadership skills, community involvement, and/or career aspirations? (Current Applicants only)

Application Checklist

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application Form (all applicants) | <input type="checkbox"/> One letter of recommendation (current applicants only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Transcript (all applicants) | <input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Acceptance (first-year students) or Enrollment Verification (upperclassmen) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Essay (see specific essay requirements) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two letters of recommendation (new applicants only) | |

A complete application package containing the application and all supporting documents must be mailed together and postmarked no later than June 10, 2026 (please do not email or hand-deliver any documents).
Mailing Address: HigherEd Ministry • c/o Agape Family Worship Center • P.O. Box 1623 • Rahway, NJ 07065