# *The Dinah K. Somerville Annual Scholarship Award*

***The 2020 Black History Month***
***"Theme: African Americans and the Vote"***

The St. Mary's County Black History Coalition (SMCBHC) will be awarding their 8th Annual Dinah K. Somerville Scholarships to deserving students who have been accepted to or are currently attending an accredited college, university, trade or technical school for the 2020-2021 school years. The SMCBHC will award two students $1,000.00 each, directly payable to the institution of their choice.

Interested applicants must complete and submit an application by the due date, January 31, 2020. Eligibility requirements and application instructions are listed on Page 2.

Applications must be submitted to:

The Dinah K. Somerville Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 829
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
or
smcbhc@gmail.com

For additional information or questions, please contact the SMCBHC at smcbhc@gmail.com.

# Eligibility Requirements and Application Instructions

Scholarship Awards

- Two, One thousand dollars **($1,000/student)** scholarships will be awarded to two deserving students who have been accepted to or are currently attending an accredited college, university, Trade or Technical school
- Application deadline is January 31, 2020
- Candidates will be notified by February 14, 2020
- Scholarship funds will be payable to the college or other institute of higher learning. It will be available by the first semester of the 2020-2021 academic year
- Scholarships shall be awarded on an objective and non-discriminatory basis. Applicants will not be assessed based on race, creed, color, sex, age or disability.

Eligibility Requirements

- U.S. citizen
- Attended High school in St. Mary's County or currently attending an accredited college, university, Trade or Technical school
- Minimum Grade Point Average **(GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale**
- Current involvement in one or more of the following activities:
  - Community Service Project
  - Volunteer Work
  - Athletics, Performing Arts, or Other group/team
  - Employment
- Award recipients must attend SMCBHC Annual Black History Celebration on Sunday, February 23, 2020 to receive the scholarship

Application Process and Supporting Documents

- Complete scholarship application (pages 3 and 4)
- Provide an essay (800 – 1000 words) from the topics listed on the Essay Questions sheet (page 5)
- Include a copy of your (student's) acceptance letter to an accredited institution of higher learning.
- Include a current High school, college, university, Trade or Technical school transcript containing GPA.

Mail completed application with supporting documents to:

The Dinah K. Somerville Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 829
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Mailed applications must be post marked not later than **January 31, 2020.**

Electronic application and supporting documents (essay, acceptance letter, and transcript) must be received via SMCBHC email (smcbhc@gmail.com) not later than **January 31, 2020**.

**NOTE:** ***Application and essay must be typed.***

# *The Dinah K. Somerville Scholarship Award*

## APPLICATION

Postmark Deadline: January 31, 2020

***Please review the Application Process Instructions before proceeding*.**

### Personal Information

Gender:☐ ☐ Female☐ ☐ Male

Name: Last_____First:_____Middle Initial_____

**Preferred mailing address for notification (i.e. parent, school, home address)**

Address:_____

City:_____State:_____

Phone: (__)_____Primary email address_____

**High School Attended** _____

**Address** _____

**City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

**Telephone** ( ) _____ **Your Guidance Counselor's Name** _____

### Academic Information

Name of the Institution where you have been accepted for the 2020-2021 academic year:

_____

Course of study/ Major:_____

Desired career or profession_____

Starting with your most recent, list service activities that you have been involved in during the **2019-2020** academic years. These activities include: work experience, community services, honors and awards, leadership, and other extracurricular activities.
If none of the above, please explain (If necessary, please include an extra page)

| **Activity/Organization/Your Role/Position(s) Held** (*Avoid using abbreviations*) | **From** (*mm/yy*) | **To** (*mm/yy*) | **Weekly Hours** |
|---|---|---|---|

Work Experience

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Community Services

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Honors and Awards

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Leadership

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Extracurricular Activities

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

**Application Certification**

- I certify that all information on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- I hereby certify all eligibility requirements as specified in my application and accompanying instructions.
- I understand that I must notify the SMCBHC of any changes in my enrollment status.

Applicant's Signature:_____ Date_____

# Essay Topics

Submit an original typed essay on a separate page(s). Essay shall be double- spaced with 800 -1000 words. Use 12-point font, Times New Roman, 1inch margins on top, bottom, and sides and ensure the essay is Left justified. Insert page numbers at the bottom centered (no page number on title page). The essay should fit on standard 8 ½ X 11 white paper. Include a Title Page that includes the essay topic statement and the student's full name (centered on the page).

Note: No colored text **(black text only),** pictures or computer links

Select and respond to **ONE** of the following topic statements:

1) Do you think the Brown vs. Board of Education is still relevant today? If so, why or why not?
2) Based upon the 2020 Black History Theme, *"**African Americans and the Vote***" pick an African-American who has influenced you to vote, the pros and cons in doing so.
3) Explain what the theme "***African Americans and the Vote***," means to your family and you.
4) Describe your career/degree goals. Explain how you would use it to improve or support your community.