

The Links, Incorporated – Gateway (IL) Chapter

Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship

Procedures, Guidelines and Deadlines

~~2017~~

Unless otherwise noted, the following procedures, guidelines and deadlines apply to the awarding of all Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarships. It is the applicant's responsibility to adhere to the procedures, guidelines and deadlines as outlined below. Failure to adhere to the procedures, guidelines and deadlines may result in loss of your scholarship.

Application Requirements:

1. All completed applications and supporting materials for the *Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship* must be submitted and **postmarked by April 15**. In fairness to those who submit their applications by the stated deadline, applications and supporting documents postmarked after April 15 **will not** be considered.
2. A complete application must include:
 - a. A **completed typed or neatly printed** (black or blue ink only) application form with applicant's signature.
 - b. An **official transcript**. Transcripts must have the High School or College/University seal or signature of the Registrar. The cumulative GPA, weighted or unweighted, must appear on the transcript. If your institution will not release the transcripts directly to you, they may send the transcripts via regular mail to the address below. If transcripts are mailed by the institution, the transcripts must be postmarked by **April 15**.
 - c. **Two letters of recommendation** (in sealed envelopes).
 - i. One letter from a school administrator, counselor, or teacher; and
 - ii. One letter from a leader in your community/church who is not a relative and has known the applicant outside the classroom.
 - d. **An essay** (typed and not more than 400 words) on one of the following topics. Beware of plagiarism.
 - i. If you were the candidate chosen as POTUS, rank the five issues - Economy, Health Care, Education, Foreign Policy, and Terrorism - in the order of importance to your administration with # 1 being most important. Explain the rationale for your ranking.
 - ii. The Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture opened in grand style on Saturday, September 24, 2016. Proposed by African American Civil War Veterans in 1915, initially authorized by an act of Congress in 1929, with ground breaking in 2012, how significant is the span of almost 100 years – from proposal to reality -- to the history of people of African descent?
 - iii. Technology is changing the world. A heading in one of the literary magazines states: "‘Black Twitter’ has become a powerful force for political activism, lightning-fast cultural commentary—and a place to hang out." Use personal examples to explain that statement.

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3. Completed application and supporting materials should be mailed to:

The Gateway (IL) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated
c/o Sharonica L. Hardin, PhD, PHR
P.O. Box 11555
Clayton, MO 63105

If questions, e-mail sharonicahardin@att.net or call 314-494-7181.

Eligibility Requirement:

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

1. Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, or approved under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).
2. Be African-American or significantly participate in and promote organizations and activities in the African-American community.
3. Reside within the following geographical boundaries: St. Louis City, St. Louis County or St. Charles County in Missouri; or St. Clair County or Madison County in Illinois.
4. Be a current full-time high school senior, or be a current full-time or part-time college freshmen, sophomore or junior who is a past recipient of a *Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship*.
5. Attend or plan to attend an accredited two or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school in one of the 50 United States or the District of Columbia.
6. Have a grade point average of **2.50 or above on a 4.0 scale** or the equivalent thereof.
7. Not be an immediate family member or IRS dependent of a member of The Links, Incorporated.

General Guideline and Other Requirements:

1. Recipients must provide The Gateway (IL) Chapter of Links, Incorporated, hereafter referred to as the Gateway Chapter, with a copy of their official letter of acceptance to an accredited two or four-year college or university or technical/vocational school before the scholarship monies are delivered to the recipient.
2. The number, dollar amount and awarding of all scholarships varies and is subject to funding availability. The Gateway Chapter reserves the right to withdraw a recipient's scholarship or decrease the amount of the scholarship award, should it become necessary, due to lack of funding, or because the recipient becomes ineligible, or due to other unforeseen circumstances.
3. A past recipient of a *Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship* is eligible to apply for a new scholarship in subsequent year(s), provided the recipient meets the eligibility guidelines for the subsequent year(s). The applicant must have also submitted to the Gateway Chapter copies of grades received during matriculation at the institution of higher learning. The final year of eligibility to apply for a subsequent scholarship is the year in which an applicant is classified as a college junior. The maximum number of years a recipient may receive a scholarship is four (4) years.
4. It is the recipient's responsibility to alert the Gateway Chapter if his or her academic status changes, or if the recipient transfers to another college or university as this may affect the recipient's eligibility. The Chapter will expect updated or additional information or documentation if a status change exists.
5. All communication regarding the scholarship will be made using the applicant's contact information (address, telephone number, e-mail) included in the application form. If a potential recipient of a scholarship cannot be contacted, fails to return any requested information or documentation within the requested time period, or mail/e-mail addressed to the recipient is returned as undeliverable, the potential recipient may, at the sole discretion of the Gateway Chapter, forfeit the scholarship.

6. Scholarship funds used exclusively for the payment of tuition or textbooks are normally not taxable. The scholarship recipient is responsible for taxes, if any, that may be assessed against your scholarship award. The Gateway Chapter recommends consulting a tax advisor if additional guidance is needed.

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7. Eligibility requirements, procedures, guidelines and deadlines for the scholarship are subject to change. Other conditions and stipulations may apply.
8. The Gateway Chapter is not responsible for undelivered, late, lost, damaged or misdirected mail, e-mails or faxes.
9. All inquiries and correspondence should be directed to:

The Gateway (IL) Chapter of The Links Incorporated
c/o Sharonica L. Hardin-Bartley, PhD, PHR
Email: sharonicahardin@att.net Phone: 314-494-7181

Please verify that all information is correct and complete before signing below. Check list – items to be included:

Application Essay Transcript(s) 2 Letters of Recommendation College Acceptance Letter Photo

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I have read, understand, accept and agree to the Procedures, Guidelines and Deadlines for the *Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship*. I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is true, complete and accurate. I understand that any alteration, concealment or falsification of any information or material will result in my disqualification as a recipient or potential recipient of the *Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship*.

I understand it is my responsibility to make sure that the application is completed and submitted by the required deadline. If not, my application may be disqualified from the awards competition and may not be considered for an award.

This application, upon receipt, becomes the property of The Gateway (IL) Chapter of Links, Incorporated.

I agree that, if selected as an award winner for the *Dr. Lillian Adams Parks Scholarship*, the Gateway Chapter; The Links, Incorporated; The Links Foundation Incorporated; and their agents and representatives, may use my name and likeness and any other information or materials provided in connection with the Scholarship for purposes of news, publicity and advertising in all media, including but not limited to print, broadcast and electronic media, press releases, internet websites and video media.

To comply with the provisions of the Family Educational and Privacy Act of 1974, I hereby grant permission for school officials to release my school records and other requested information, if necessary.

If you are under 18 years of age, your parent or legal guardian must also agree to these terms and conditions.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(If Applicant is under 18)

SUBMIT THIS PAGE WITH YOUR APPLICATION and PHOTO (Requested but optional)