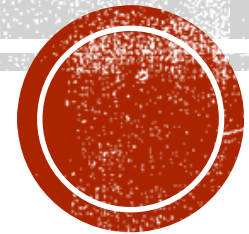


SCHOLARSHIPS & THE GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP

Presented by:

Gates Millennium Spartans

GO GREEN! ☺



TYPES OF AID

Loans

Work-study

Grants

Scholarships



SCHOLARSHIPS

- **FREE** money!
- Do **NOT** need to be paid back
- Need and/or merit based
- Provided by?
 - Colleges/Universities
 - Independent third parties (i.e., non-profits, organizations)
- Award Amount?
 - Ranges from a few hundred dollars to entire cost of attendance



WHAT TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS EXIST?

Academic

Athletic

Skills/Talents

Program of
Study

Organizational

Military

Ancestry

Religion



THERE'S A VARIETY!

- Jif's Most Creative Sandwich Contest (\$25,000)
 - Create an interesting sandwich
- Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship (\$10,000)
 - Promote vegetarianism
- Duck Brand Duct Tape Stuck at Prom Scholarship (\$6,000)
 - Make and wear the best prom (couple) outfits made entirely out of duct tape
- American Association of Candy Technologists John Kitt Memorial Scholarship (\$5,000)
 - Demonstrate interest in confectionery technology
- Common Knowledge (\$2,500)
 - Take a quiz, show your common knowledge, win scholarships. No essays, applications, or GPA requirements!
- Sophie Major Memorial Duck Calling Contest (\$2,000)
 - Create the finest duck call
- Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship (\$1,500)
 - Write an essay about escaping zombies
- Tall Clubs International - Be Tall (\$1,000)
 - 5'10" for women and 6'2" for men



WHERE TO START SEARCHING?

- Websites:
 - The College Board
 - FastWeb.com
 - Scholarships.com
 - Collegenet.com (MACH25)
 - [Paco Tomei's Scholarship List](#)
 - [Student Savings: The Ultimate Resource Guide for Students](#)
 - [Michigan.gov \(Paying for College\)](#)
 - [My College Options](#)
 - [Office of Financial Aid at MSU](#)
- Ask around! Family (parents), friends, employers, teachers, guidance and college counselors, librarians, neighbors...EVERYWHERE.
- BEWARE OF SCAMS!!!



Preparing Your Application for the Gates Millennium Scholars Program



Gates Millennium Scholars

Gates Millennium Scholars Program

The Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) Program, established in 1999, is a 1.6 billion dollar initiative funded by grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

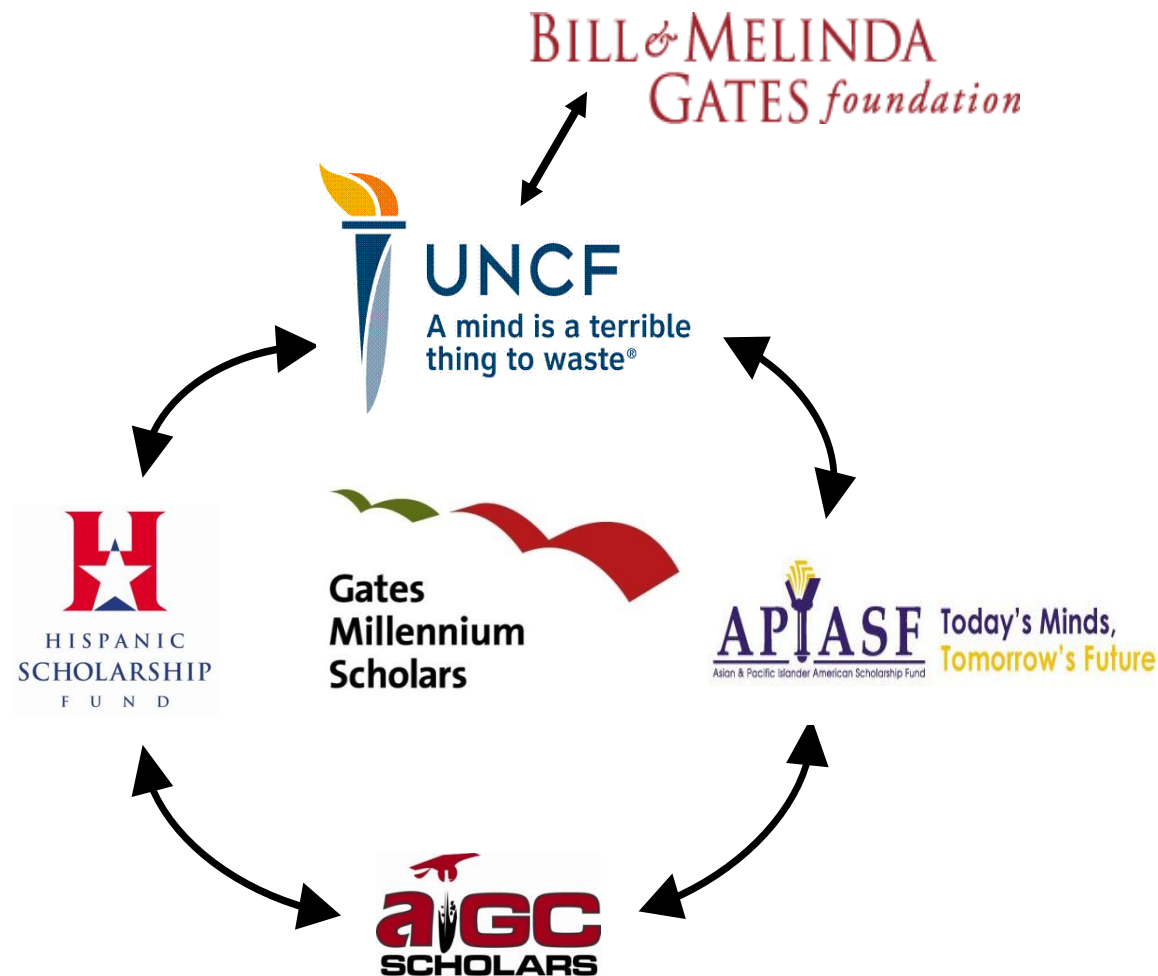
The goal of GMS is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for 20,000 outstanding students with significant financial need to reach their full potential.



GMS Program Structure

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is the administrator of the GMS initiative and has partnered with the following organizations:

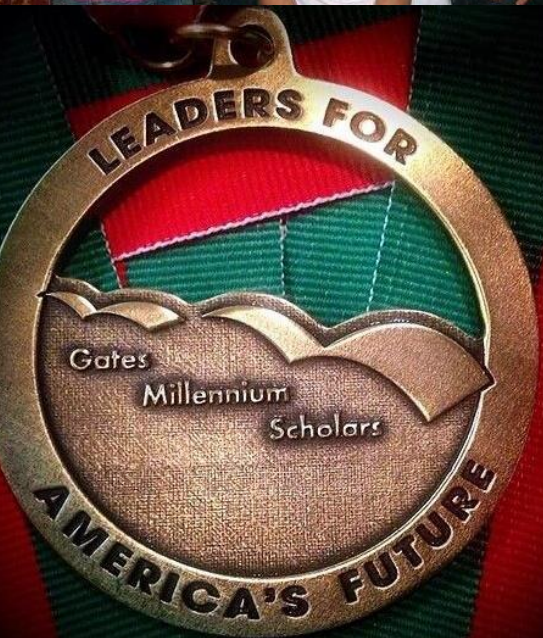
- Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund
- American Indian Graduate Center Scholars
- Hispanic Scholarship Fund





GMS Program Overview

- Selects 1,000 candidates a year
- Funds unmet need determined by the financial aid award letter provided by the institution
- Provides opportunity for college education in any discipline or field for undergraduates
- Provides graduate degree funding for continuing Scholars in: computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health, and science
- Renews annually based on satisfactory academic progress, full-time enrollment and timely submission of required documents



GMS Eligibility Criteria

- African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific American or Hispanic Americans;
- Citizens/permanent residents of the United States;
- Cumulative GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) at the time of application;
- Matriculation for the first time at an accredited college or university as full-time, degree-seeking freshmen in the fall of 2015, with exception of students jointly enrolled in high school and college (GED recipients are also eligible);
- Significant demonstrated financial need as defined by *Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria*; and
- Demonstrated leadership commitment through participation in community service, extracurricular or other activities that reflect leadership abilities.



STEP ONE: FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE ENTIRE APPLICATION PROCESS

- **Nominator Form**

- Evaluation of the student's **academic record**
- Educator/Guidance Counselor, teacher or any educator who is familiar with the student's academic background completes the **Nominator Form**.

- **Recommender Form**

- Evaluation of the students **community service and leadership activities**
- Community member or individual who is aware of the student's community service and leadership activities completes the **Recommender Form**.

- **Nominee Form**

- Student Application
- Student completes comprehensive **Nominee Personal Information Form**.

- All three forms must be completed by the deadline:
 - Wednesday, January 14, 2015 | 11:59 pm EST



Breakdown of the Student Application

- Basic information (SSN and ethnicity)
- Essay questions (8 of them—max 1000 words per question)
- Education (first choice university, HS info)
- Leadership and Community Service (list and short description of each)
- Employment
- Accomplishments, Awards
- Academic Record (courses you took)
- Financial Info (family gross income estimate)
- Authorization/Certification
- Signature
- Summary



STEP TWO: UNDERSTAND THE EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Applications are evaluated based on academic rigor, community service and leadership activities.
- Evaluation of student's academic record should reflect the rigor of his/her coursework, showcasing his/her commitment to academics and determination to succeed academically.
- Evaluation of the community service and leadership should provide insight to the student's service to community and his/her leadership potential exhibited through extra-curricular activities.



STEP THREE: SELECT THE APPROPRIATE NOMINATOR AND RECOMMENDER

- Nominator must be an educator (i.e., Teacher, Counselor, Principal)
- Recommender must be familiar with the student's community service and leadership activities.
- ****Nominator can serve as Recommender, but a Recommender cannot always serve as a Nominator.****
 - Example: Teacher A can be both the nominator and recommender
- Neither the nominator nor recommender can be a relative of the student.



STEP FOUR: TELL YOUR STORY

- Tell your story and bring your experiences to life.
- Ask supporters to assist you in identifying how far you have come and achieved during the course of your high school career.
- Ask supporters to review your essays and provide feedback.
- Provide your nominator and recommender with a resume or personal profile.



STEP FIVE: CREATE A TIMELINE TO ENSURE YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE BEFORE THE DEADLINE

- Complete sections of the application weekly.
- Contact your recommender and nominator to ensure they have submitted their forms to complete the application prior to the deadline.
- Follow-up periodically to ensure they are progressing to complete their form prior to the deadline.
- Submit **BEFORE** the deadline.
 - Wednesday, January 14, 2015 | 11:59 pm EST



CONTACT INFORMATION

GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS

P.O. BOX 10500

FAIRFAX, VA 22031-8044

TEL: 1-877-690-4677

CONTACTUS@GMSP.ORG





Essay 1

Discuss the subjects in which you excel or have excelled. To what factors do you attribute your success?

Essay 2

Discuss the subjects in which you have had difficulty. What factors do you believe contributed to your difficulties? How have you dealt with them so they will not cause problems for you again? In what areas have you experienced the greatest improvement? What problem areas remain?

Essay 3

Briefly describe a situation in which you felt that you or others were treated unfairly or were not given an opportunity you felt you deserved. Why do you think this happened? How did you respond? Did the situation improve as a result of your response?

Essay 4

Discuss your short and long-term goals. Are some of them related? Which are priorities?





Essay 5

Discuss a leadership experience you have had in any area of your life: school, work, athletics, family, church, community, etc. How and why did you become a leader in this area? How did this experience influence your goals?

Essay 6

Discuss your involvement in and contributions to a community near your home, school or elsewhere. Please select an experience different from the one you discussed in the previous question, even if this experience also involved leadership. What did you accomplish? How did this experience influence your goals?

Essay 7

Other than through classes in school, in what areas (non-academic or academic) have you acquired knowledge or skills? How?

Essay 8

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about that may help us evaluate your nomination (i.e., personal characteristics, obstacles you have overcome)?

