

## **First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church**

602 N Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Website: [www.firstrising.org](http://www.firstrising.org)

Office: (202) 289-4480

Fax: (202) 289-4595

### **Ernest R. & Etta C. Gibson Scholarship Fund Scholarship Application**

The First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Ernest R. & Etta C. Gibson Scholarship (**ERG/ECG Scholarship**), provides scholarship funds to youth in good standing in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws under - Article 1, Section 2. The scholarship program is made possible by the generous donations from Church members and others. The Board of Deacons Ministry - Scholarship Committee (Chairman and Vice Chairman) administers the fund.

Scholarship awards take into consideration the following: Applicants should be an active church member for a minimum of one (1) year. The Scholarship Committee will review special situations. Each applicant should be accepted in an accredited college, university, or technical school at time of request.

Awards are made in accordance with the criteria established for the scholarship after a thorough review of the applicant's application. The amount of the award is based on availability of funds. Subject to the availability of funds, awards may be granted annually for **no more than four years**.

The Scholarship Committee will make every effort to act on each application as quickly as possible. Shortly thereafter, the applicant will receive notice from the Scholarship Committee as to the status of their request.

Upon notification of an award, the applicant will notify the Scholarship Committee in writing on how to have the funds paid on their behalf directly to the recipient, or educational institution. Each applicant should prepare herself/himself by having the school's admissions and/or billing office information and student identification (if assigned) available upon request. Disbursements will be made directly to the educational institution or recipient, from the Church Disbursement Office for the dollar amount of the award.

#### **Guidelines**

- To be eligible for the First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church ERG/ECG Scholarship, applicants must meet all of the requirements below.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered for evaluation.
- Applications must have authentic original signatures. Faxes will not be considered for evaluation.
- The monetary distribution for scholarships is dependent upon funds available for the awarding year.
- Continuous yearly participation in youth Ministry activities at First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

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**Requirements**

- Must be an active member (in good standing) of First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Washington DC, and an active participant in a Church Ministry(s) for the past year.
- Must be a prospective high school graduate in the year of application.
- Must use funds for undergraduate studies or school. The Scholarship Committee will review special situations.
- Must have a cumulative overall grade point average (G.P.A.) of 2.5 or above.
- The application must include an official high school transcript.
- Submit proof of acceptance to a college, university, or school.
- The application requires basic contact information regarding education, employment, and/or community service history.
- The applicant must answer three short essay questions regarding: (1) your educational goals; (2) the benefit of the scholarship to you and your family; and (3) any significant obstacles you have faced and how you overcame them. (Please type your answers on a separate sheet of paper).
- The completed application and supporting materials are due in to First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church office by July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**Application Summary** (all materials must be submitted at one time to the Scholarship Committee)

- All applications must be typed or clearly printed in blue or black ink.
- Every blank in the scholarship application must be completed. This includes a complete address and zip code. If a particular portion of the application does not apply to the applicant, N/A should be placed on the blank line.
- Applicant must submit three (3) letters of recommendation (recommenders cannot be related to applicants):
  - Submit a letter of recommendation from the Pastor and a person within the church leadership, who knows the spiritual stewardship of the applicant.
  - Submit a letter of recommendation from a current/former teacher, guidance counselor, or principal who knows the academic capabilities of the applicant. The three (3) letters of recommendation must be in a sealed envelope and included with your application.
  - Scholarships will be awarded for a period of one year or less. A recipient may reapply for the following year(s) scholarship program if they continue to meet the Church eligibility requirements.
  - Scholarship funds will be made available after review by the Scholarship Committee and after the annual Church meeting in January of each year. The scholarship check will be mailed to the recipient's permanent home

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address or educational institution, and/or will be made payable to the educational institution or the recipient.

**Policies/Procedures**

- Scholarships will be awarded annually provided the funds are available.
- The information that you provide will be shared only with the Board of Deacons Ministry - Scholarship Committee.

**How can scholarship funds be used?**

- Scholarships may be used for any course of study at a community college, technical school, and four-year university/college. Funds may be used to pay for tuition, textbooks, school supplies and other fees, etc.
- Generally, scholarship funds used exclusively for the payment of tuition, fees, or textbooks are not taxable.
- Because there may be some exceptions to this rule, the Church recommends that the recipient contact their tax advisor or log on to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) to look for more information. The scholarship recipient is responsible for taxes (if any) that maybe assessed against the scholarship award.

**Questions? Contact the First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church Board of Deacons Ministry Scholarship Committee (Chairman and Vice Chairman).**



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APPLICANT INFORMATION					
Full Name:				Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	
	<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>M.I.</i>		
Address:					
	<i>Street Address</i>			<i>Apartment/Unit #</i>	
	<i>City</i>			<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
Phone:	( )	Email Address:			
EDUCATION					
High School:					
	<i>Name of High School</i>				
Address of High School:					
	<i>Street Address or P.O. Box</i>				
	<i>City</i>			<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
Phone:	( )	Expected Date of Graduation (mm/dd/yyyy):			
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT					
PLEASE NOTE: List extra-curricular activities that you have been personally involved in during grades 9-12.					
Name of Activity		Years of Participation		Office(s) Held	
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					

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5.		
<b>AWARDS/SPECIAL HONORS/DISTINCTIONS (attach a sheet with additional awards if needed)</b>		
<b>PLEASE NOTE: List awards, honors, or distinctions that you received during grades 9-12.</b>		
<b>Award/Honor/Distinction</b>	<b>Description/Basis for Award</b>	<b>Year(s) Received</b>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

<b>AREA(S) OF CAREER INTEREST</b>			
<b>Career Goal:</b>			
<b>Intended College Major:</b>			
<b>REFERENCES</b>			
<b>PLEASE NOTE: Give the names of two (2) church references and one (1) academic reference (Use an additional sheet if necessary).</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Position</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>First Rising Mt. Zion Bapt. Ch.:</b>			(     )
<b>Academic:</b>			(     )
<b>APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION AND PERMISSION TO RELEASE INFORMATION</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I hereby certify that all information submitted on this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.</li><li>• I understand that submitting nonfactual information will automatically disqualify me from consideration for all scholarships.</li><li>• By submitting this application, I authorize my high school to make information concerning my academic records available to the First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Board of Deacons Ministry-Scholarship Committee.</li></ul>			

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**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_