



P.O. Box 1092

Santa Maria – Lompoc Branch

Santa Maria, CA 93456

## **N.A.A.C.P. SCHOLARSHIP FUND GENERAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENT APPLICANTS**

### **BACKGROUND**

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1909 after the Springfield, Illinois Race Riot of 1908, when white liberals joined with the nucleus of the Niagara Movement. It is comprised of members from all races and ethnicities.

To achieve its goal of social, political, educational, and economic equality, the N.A.A.C.P. has focused on litigation, legislation, and education.

Each year the Santa Maria/Lompoc Branch awards partial scholarships to deserving young people who are African American/Black or a person of color. The amount and number of such award are contingent upon funds availability from fund raising activities and as outlined below.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE (select one only)**

\_\_\_\_ **SMILEY E. WILKINS SR. (April 4, 1928-September 10, 2007)**  
**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** – honors the life and legacy of our fourth and longest serving president (1984-2007). Lieutenant Colonel Smiley E. Wilkins, Sr., had a flourishing career as an officer in the United States Air Force, served as the Branch's leader for over 23 years where he oversaw and directed all programs and activities. He was a Silver Life Member of the NAACP and dedicated his life to equality and justice. **AMOUNT AVAILABLE: \$500.00.**

\_\_\_\_ **NANNIE ELIZABETH WILKINS (March 13, 1927-May 9, 2019),**  
**NAACP MATRIARCH.** A graduate of North Carolina A&T in 1949 which was an extraordinary feat for a woman of color in that time. Soft spoken and determined, Mrs. Nannie raised three children, supported her family, and was the family and Branch's Drum Major for Justice, keeping everyone in step. A Silver Life and Golden Heritage member of the NAACP. **AMOUNT AVAILABLE: \$500.00.**



\_\_\_\_ **NAOMI D. GWYNN SMITH (March 4, 1924 – July 9, 2021), NAACP MATRIARCH, founding member of the Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch and double Silver Life member.** She was a published author, who earned her LVN at St. Paul's Institute of Nursing during the 1950s and worked as a nurse for 5 years before beginning a career with federal civil service for over 43 years. She and her husband, Master Sergeant Lamar Smith, moved to Santa Maria in 1966, Naomi then went on to earn a Bachelor in psychology and a Master's degree in guidance and counseling from Chapman University, earning lifetime teaching credentials in psychology, sociology and pupil personnel at the community college level. **AMOUNT AVAILABLE: \$500.00.**

\_\_\_\_ **AGATHA SHORTER-LEWIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** (September 7, 1950 - October 5, 2021) honors the life and legacy of our third president and later vice-president, Agatha Shorter-Lewis. Mrs. Shorter-Lewis was elected branch president at the young age of 31. She had a disarming smile, a booming voice, a bubbly personality and she never met a stranger. She was a trailblazer, the first Black female Probation Officer in Santa Barbara County (1976), dedicated over 40 years of her life through her work with the Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch establishing the Branch's annual fashion show which raises scholarship money for many underserved youth. **AMOUNT AVAILABLE: \$500.00**

\_\_\_\_ **MARCUS SAMUEL MCMORRIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP,** honors the short, yet well lived life of Marcus Samuel McMorris (December 1, 1994 – February 17, 2021). Marcus loved life to the fullest, had a great sense of humor, was determined and competitive, and taught himself how to ride a bicycle without wheels at the age of 4. He brought laughter, joy and happiness and was best friend to many. He played basketball competitively with Little League, schools in Orcutt, at Righetti High School and Miramar College. He was an NAACP and is sorely missed. **AMOUNT AVAILABLE: \$1000.00. THIS SCHOLARSHIP IS RESTRICTED TO A RIGHETTI HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL PLAYER, WHO IS A SENIOR AND PLANS TO ATTEND COLLEGE.**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MUST BE MAILED AND/OR POSTMARKED by Monday, May 19, 2025, 5:00 P.M.**

**MAILING ADDRESS: NAACP, P.O. Box 1092, Santa Maria, CA 93456,**

**APPLICATIONS PACKETS requiring a signed receipt will not be accepted.**



## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

### **HIGH SCHOOL**

- **Applicant must be a current verifiable member of the N.A.A.C.P. If not a member, apply with this application to join Santa Maria-Lompoc 1072 Branch.**
- Applicant must be a student at an **Accredited High School in the Santa Maria-Lompoc NAACP geographical jurisdiction** who has graduated or will graduate in the year of the award (2025).
- Applicant must be African American/Black or a person of color (with the exception of the Marcus Samuel McMorris Scholarship).
- Applicant must have a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and be dedicated to a career in a substantive field.
- Applicant must also complete a personal essay of 300 minimum to a maximum of 500 words and submit a letter of recommendation and an official transcript of grades.
- Applicant must have substantive community service (a minimum of 100 hours – not required for the Marcus Samuel McMorris Scholarship).

**Additional Requirements are noted on page 5 and 6 of this application.**

- Prior to distribution of funds (after the college school year begins), applicant must verify that h/s is enrolled full-time (12 units) in an accredited college (**accelerated programs do not qualify**). **NO FUNDS WILL BE DISBURSED BEFORE THE COLLEGE YEAR BEGINS AND VERIFICATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED THAT STUDENT IS ATTENDING COLLEGE FULL-TIME – NO EXCEPTION.**



# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

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## PART I

I hereby apply for Scholarship Assistance from the NAACP Scholarship Fund.  
Pertinent information about me includes the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Race

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Cell

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name Occupation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employer

Father/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name Occupation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employer

High School Currently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Career objective: \_\_\_\_\_

College or University: \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan to attend



Student Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PART II (To be completed by applicant's parents.)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother/Guardian Address                      City                      State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Guardian Address                      City                      State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number in household                      # Family members presently attending college

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total family income per year (all salaries, business income, rents, pensions, interest, etc. as reported to the Internal Revenue Service/FAFSA, or other sources)

**I (WE) CERTIFY THAT ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN PARTS I AND II OF THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT.**

Mother/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PART III (To be completed by school official, but not necessary if signature is on submitted official transcript.)**

**I certify that the G.P.A. indicated above is correct.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_



**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - Attachments Required:**

1. Applicant must be a current verifiable member of the N.A.A.C.P. , preferably Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch 1072. Membership can be submitted with scholarship application (see #7) or On-Line at [santamarialompocnaacp.org](http://santamarialompocnaacp.org). **Submissions made on-line should request membership affiliation with Branch #1072, Santa Maria-Lompoc.** Verification of on-line application and payment MUST accompany scholarship application.
2. Applicant must be African American/Black or a person of color (with the exception of the Marcus Samuel McMorris Scholarship).
3. Applicant must provide a copy of Official student's transcript.
4. A letter of recommendation (from Counselors, Instructors, Community Leaders, etc.) – MUST BE TYPEWRITTEN (letter from family members will not be accepted).
5. Personal essay of a minimum of 300 words, not to exceed 500 words – MUST BE TYPEWRITTEN. Your essay should introduce yourself telling us about you; what has impacted your life; what you will do to make our society a better place for all people; any volunteer work you have done (dates/hours volunteered) and how this work impacted/affected you; any financial circumstances that exist in your family; and any additional information you would like the committee to consider.
6. List of extracurricular and community service activities with dates of service – MUST BE TYPEWRITTEN.
7. Current photo for NAACP Scholarship Booklet.
8. Scholarship Application printed legible (or typewritten – illegible applications will not be accepted).
9. Applicant's NAACP membership card or completed membership application with payment (check made payable to Santa Maria-Lompoc NAACP).
10. Applicant Student Aid Report (FAFSA).

**FAILURE TO PROVIDE ANY OF THE REQUISITE INFORMATION WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.**

Applications are reviewed and scored by the Scholarship Committee, NAACP leaders who volunteer their time to read applications, review transcripts, and select recipients for approval. IF SELECTED, **NOTIFICATION OF ANY AWARD WILL BE SENT TO THE RECIPIENT'S CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR. NO**



**OTHER NOTIFICATION WILL BE SENT TO APPLICANTS.** Decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final and cannot be appealed.

**Prior to distribution of funds (after the college school year begins), student must verify that h/s is enrolled full-time (12 units) in an accredited college (accelerated programs do not qualify). NO FUNDS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE COLLEGE SEMESTER/QUARTER/SCHOOL YEAR AND VERIFICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED THAT STUDENT/APPLICANT IS ENROLLED AND ATTENDING COLLEGE.**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: ALL REQUISITE INFORMATION INCLUDING APPLICATION MUST BE MAILED AND/OR POSTMARKED by Monday, May 19, 2025.**

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