



**2026 Liberty Square/Lincoln Gardens Student Scholarship Fund | Application Guidelines**  
**Deadline: Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.**  
**Notification of Award: April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Annual Award Amount: Up to \$2,000 (eligible applicants can reapply yearly for up to 4 years)**

### **History**

The Related Group established the fund in 2018 to reflect its broad commitment to revitalizing Liberty Square, built in 1937 and one of the nation's oldest public housing projects. As lead developer for the Liberty Square Rising redevelopment and Lincoln Gardens residential community, the company seeks to transform the homes and community for hundreds of residents. The scholarship fund will enable students with high aspirations who live in Liberty Square and Lincoln Gardens to pursue their future goals by supporting their post-secondary education.

**\*\*These funds can only be used for undergraduate level studies**

### **Submission + Deadline**

- Applicants must submit an application through the Miami Foundation's online grants application portal. To access the online portal, please visit [miamifoundation.org/scholarships](https://miamifoundation.org/scholarships) and carefully review the registration instructions.
- If an application is missing information, The Miami Foundation will **not** inform the applicant nor review the application. Mailed, faxed or emailed applications **will not** be accepted.
- Applications must be submitted online by **Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.**

### **Eligibility**

In order to qualify, applicants must:

- Currently reside in Liberty Square or Lincoln Gardens
- Demonstrate high aspirations, perseverance and service to the community
- Fit one of the following categories:
  - a) Graduating high school senior who plans to pursue a college degree and has at least a 2.5 GPA.
  - b) A high school graduate planning to pursue a college degree and has at least a 2.5 GPA.
  - c) GED recipient who plans to pursue a career-path vocational certification program, or college degree.
  - d) A graduating senior or previous graduate seeking to pursue vocational training or certification program at an accredited institution.
  - e) Be accepted into or currently enrolled in a career-focused vocational, trade, or certification program.

### **Selection Criteria**

A Scholarship Advisory Committee will review and rate the applications and make final decisions on scholarship awards. The following criteria will be considered in evaluating applicants:

- Essay Questions
- Academic Performance
- Letter of Recommendation



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PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION

2026 Liberty Square Student Scholarship Fund  
 Deadline: Friday, March 18, 2026, 11:59 PM



This is a template of the application that shows the information you will need to submit online. Mailed, emailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. Use this as a worksheet to gather the information you will need to provide online. To submit your application, go to [miamifoundation.org/scholarships](http://miamifoundation.org/scholarships).

We recommend that you complete all questions that have character count limits in a word processing program first, paying careful attention to the character count limits - which include spaces - and then copy and paste your responses into the online application.

### Personal Information:

|  |                   |                    |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| Last Name: _____   | First Name: _____ | Middle Name: _____ |
| Date of Birth: _____   | _____             | Gender: _____      |
| Address: _____   |                   |                    |
| Preferred Phone Number: _____  | _____             |                    |
| Email Address: _____   |                   |                    |
| Do you currently reside in Liberty Square or Lincoln Gardens? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |                   |                    |
|  |                   |                    |
|  |                   |                    |

### School + Academic Information:

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| I am currently enrolled in: <input type="checkbox"/> High School <input type="checkbox"/> College/University <input type="checkbox"/> Career-path Certification Program |                        |
| High school attending or graduated from: _____  | Graduation Year: _____ |
| <b>High school seniors:</b> Post-secondary school you plan to attend:   |                        |
| Acceptance status: <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Pending   |                        |
| Proposed college major or career-path certification: _____  |                        |
| <b>High school graduates:</b> Post-secondary school you are enrolled in:  |                        |
| College major or career-path certification you are pursuing: _____  |                        |
| Number of years remaining for graduation or completion: _____   |                        |
| Current GPA: _____  |                        |

The Miami Foundation builds the philanthropic, civic, and leadership backbone for Greater Miami. Since 1967, the Foundation has invested \$485 million to strengthen our community with partnerships and contributions from more than 1000 fundholders and 35,000 donors. The Miami Foundation, which currently manages over \$350 million in assets, mobilizes donors, nonprofits, leaders, and locals to set a bold vision for our community's future and to invest in a stronger, more equitable, more resilient Greater Miami.

### Essay Questions:

These questions will help the selection committee learn who you are, your aspirations and what motivates you. Please be authentic with your responses. There is a 1,000 character limit, including spaces, for each question.

- School, Volunteer, and Work Experience:** Describe what you consider to be your most important project or activity benefiting your school or community and/or outside jobs that have contributed to the support or welfare of your family.

2. **Aspirations:** Tell us about yourself and your vision and goals for your life, education, and career. How would this award help you to achieve that vision and those goals? Include any challenges or achievements that have influenced the evolution of that vision and those goals.
3. **OPTIONAL: Link to Video:** Create and upload into the scholarship portal a two-minute video introducing yourself to the scholarship selection committee and telling them what you are looking forward to the most in your freshman year in college. Be as authentic as possible.

**Other Required Attachments to be uploaded online along with the application:**

- **Letter of Recommendation (1):** Please submit **one** letter of recommendation from a teacher, community leader, or advisor. Upload as a single PDF document. The letter(s) should speak to your character and primary strengths.
- **Unofficial Transcript:** Please upload an unofficial transcript as a single PDF. Do not send the transcript separately.

**Other:** How did you hear about this scholarship opportunity?

**Certifications: In submitting the online application you certify the following:**

1. **Financial Aid Displacement:** I understand that an award at this time may affect the financial aid package provided by my college or university. I certify that I have consulted with my school's Financial Aid Office to gather any pertinent information to ensure that if I were to receive an award it would not reduce the amount my school would contribute under its aid package

2. I certify that all the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked by any authorized official of The Miami Foundation, I agree to give documentation for information given on this form. I realize that this proof may include a copy of a U.S. tax return. I realize that failure to comply with a request for further information may prevent the applicant from being considered. I understand that the financial information will be confidential, for review solely by The Miami Foundation and selection committee.