OHAC encourages academic excellence and personal and community responsibility among all scholarship applicants. The OHAC Scholarship Committee will offer up to Six (6) annual scholarships in the amount of $1,000.00 each for students enrolling in or attending an accredited college, university, community college, technical school or vocational school.

General Application Requirements and Eligibility Criteria of Applicants:

- **Status:** The Applicant must be a Public Housing or Section 8 Resident at time of application and the housing authority must be an OHAC Member (PMHA is an OHAC Member).
- **Minimum Grade Point Recommendation:** Recommended accumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) for high school seniors, re-entry adults and continuing education students. A passing score of 60 (prior to 2002) or 600 (after 2002) for GED participants.
- **Letters of Recommendation:** All applicants must have two (2) letters of recommendations, i.e., a guidance counselor, principal, minister, or adult member(s) of your community. (Those not related to the applicant).
- **Application Form:** The application form must be completed in its entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- **School Transcript/GED Certification:** The applicant must submit a high school transcript or GED Certification. For re-entry or continuing students please provide college transcripts.
- **Essay:** Each applicant must submit a type written or printed essay, not to exceed 500 words, on the following topic: "What and Who influenced you to further your education?" In your response include obstacles you have overcome, short term goals and long term goals.

Q & A’s:

1. **Do graduating seniors need proof of enrollment to be eligible for scholarship?** No. Proof of enrollment does not need to accompany the application. But, if applicant (graduating senior) is awarded a scholarship they will need to submit proof of enrollment to HA in order to receive the check. HA will forward proof of enrollment to OHAC and check will be issued from OHAC.
2. **Do applicants need to attend a 4 year college to be eligible?** No, applicants attending any accredited institution are eligible, i.e., technical school, vocational school, etc.
3. **Can someone that received a scholarship in the past apply again?** Yes
4. **Is someone that is taking classes over the internet eligible if it is through an accredited institution?** Yes
5. **Does the application need to be typed?** No, but do remember that the committee only sees the application, not the applicant. So, the application should be neat with good grammar and spelling.
6. **Is a 3.0 GPA recommended or required?** It is highly recommended.

**DEADLINE:** All applications must be submitted to the attention of PMHA’s Executive Director, who may choose up to two (2) applications to submit to OHAC. The deadline for applicants to submit their applications to the Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) is **5:00p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2020.**

***Awards to be presented at the 2020 OHAC Spring Conference at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2020 at Sheraton Suites Akron-Cuyahoga Fall (located in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio).***