

# THE MICHAELS STUDENT LIVING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Dear Student Residents:

Matriculated college students residing in Michaels Student Living communities are invited by the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program to apply for scholarship grants for the 2023-2024 academic year to be awarded in November 2023. The scholarship program, in its eighth year, is issuing this invitation to distinguished students who are pursuing some form of higher education in college, university, or trade/professional institute. The Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program is a division of The Michaels Organization Educational Foundation. Over the last 32 years, the Foundation has awarded more than 13 million dollars in scholarships to residents living at Michaels managed properties.

Please contact Dr. Bruce W. Johnson, Scholarship Program Administrator, at [bjohnson@tmo.com](mailto:bjohnson@tmo.com) or 215-262-4230 if you have any questions concerning the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program's work to assist students throughout the nation.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Flanagan,  
Executive Vice President  
**Michaels Student Living**  
2 Cooper Street, 14th FL  
Camden, NJ 08102

# Scholarship Information For Applicants & Parents

## ELIGIBILITY

Matriculated students in good standing academically at a community college, college, university or trade/technical school and residing at an apartment community in which Michaels Student Living has an ownership interest, or is managing in partnership with a college or university, are eligible to apply (see list of apartment communities provided in a drop-down box on the application form). Students must be on a lease and be a resident in good standing as of September 11, 2023 currently residing at an aforementioned Michaels apartment community to qualify as eligible. Additionally, the applicant cannot graduate on or before March 31, 2024, and must be registered for enrollment for the fall 2023 and spring 2024 semesters.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

The criteria used to select grant recipients includes academic performance, character, financial need, and proficiency or potential proficiency in a chosen field of study. Each of these criteria carries equal weight in determining who will receive grants. Academic performance is determined by evaluating high school or college grade transcripts released to the Michaels Scholarship Program by the student.

All matriculated college or trade/technical school students applying must possess a minimum of a 3.2 grade point average on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent. College students applying for grants who have attained sufficient credits at their institution of higher learning to be considered as a junior, must provide documentation of a declared major. The Michaels Scholarship Program values student efforts in working toward a degree.

Character and proficiency in a chosen field of study will be evaluated through examination of an essay, of approximately 400 words, written by the student and by one required reference. Please inform the selection committee of your chosen field of endeavor. Please **include information regarding co-curricular and community service activities (sports, educational, social, civic, religious, job experiences and/or family responsibilities)** which reflect your interest in the field you have chosen to pursue through your post-secondary studies. We encourage you to elaborate briefly on the length of time of your involvement and describe any projects that reflect your interest in your chosen field of study. In lieu of the essay, a student may submit **a creative alternative**. A creative alternative should only be uploaded if the student is pursuing a degree in a major related to their creative submission. Video presentations should not exceed 3 minutes. You may also upload a file with your portfolio of creative works.

## DETERMINATION OF FINANCIAL NEED

The Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program recognizes that pursuing higher education can be very expensive. Further, the Scholarship Program understands that all students are expected to contribute toward their education costs. How much an individual and their family will be expected to contribute depends on their financial situation. As a result, a student and/or their family must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which yields an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) score. This score is widely accepted and used by colleges and universities across the country as a determination of financial need. The Scholarship Program requires the applicant's 2023 FAFSA EFC score (**see application page**) and reserves the right to request official verification of the EFC score.

## DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

Each award will represent a scholarship grant provided to the recipient. These grants should not be mistaken in any way for student loans. The exact number of awards and the total amount of money to be awarded in 2023 will be determined during the selection process, in the sole discretion of the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program.

## PAYMENTS OF GRANTS

All grants are made payable to the colleges or other post-secondary institutions where the recipient will attend during the 2023-24 school year. All recipients must provide the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program verification of enrollment at an accredited school. It is the intent of the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program that the full amount of these grants will be applied toward the recipient's direct school expenses. We suggest that the recipient contact the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program before accepting any scholarship, if there is any doubt about the continuance of other financial aid, especially need-based scholarships. **Michaels Student Living Scholarship Funds may NOT be utilized to pay rent at your MSL Community.**

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

There are four essential parts of this application, and all must be received in order for the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program to consider an application.

### **The deadline for completed applications is October 16, 2023.**

- I. The completed Application Form that contains basic information about the applicant, as well as, the applicant's and parent/guardian statement with signatures.
- II. An official grade transcript that shows the courses you have taken and the grades awarded through the spring 2023 semester. These transcripts will allow us to evaluate academic performance. This transcript should be sent via US Mail to: Dr. Bruce W. Johnson, Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 740, Washington Crossing, PA 18977. All transcripts must be postmarked on or before October 16, 2023.
- III. The selection committee wants to get to know you on a personal level and gain insight into your character and chosen field of endeavor. In an essay of approximately 400 words, typed on the page provided in the application, identify and describe what you feel are your most positive personal qualities. Also inform the selection committee of your chosen field of endeavor. Please list co-curricular activities (sports, educational, social, civic, religious, job experiences, and/or family responsibilities) which reflect your interest in the field you have chosen to pursue through your post-secondary studies. We encourage you to elaborate briefly on the length of time of your involvement and describe any projects that reflect your interest in your chosen field of study. In lieu of the essay, a student may submit a creative alternative to the essay. **A creative alternative should only be uploaded if the student is pursuing a degree in a major related to their creative submission.** Video presentations should not exceed 3 minutes. You may also upload a file with your portfolio of creative works.

- IV. One completed reference form must be submitted. This reference should come from a person who has first-hand knowledge of your functioning as a student on a regular basis. The Foundation assumes that recommendations from teachers, guidance counselors, principals, deans, and other school administrators are better indicators of a student's future performance in school than personal recommendations. **AS A RESULT, THIS RECOMMENDATION MUST COME FROM ONE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED TYPE INDIVIDUALS. PERSONAL REFERENCES AND REFERENCES FROM RELATIVES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

## NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The selection committee will meet during the month of November. All applicants will be notified by November 24, 2023 of the outcome status of their application.

## IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- October 16, 2023** **FINAL DEADLINE** for all parts of the application for a 2023 Michaels Student Living Scholarship Grant. Mail the grade transcripts to Dr. Bruce W. Johnson, Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 740, Washington Crossing, PA 18977.
- November 24, 2023** All applicants notified of the outcome status of their application.
- December 15, 2023** Scholarship checks, made payable to post-secondary institutions, will be sent directly to the post-secondary institution via U.S. mail on behalf of the scholarship recipient to help pay for the student's 2023-24 school year costs.

## MICHAELS STUDENT LIVING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SELECTION COMMITTEE

Bruce W. Johnson, Ed. D., Scholarship Program Administrator  
Ashley Dahlk, Training and Operations Manager  
Tyler Davidson, Vice President of Facilities  
Marie Route, Regional Vice President  
Michael Reighter, Regional Vice President  
Courtney Zaccardi, Corporate Marketing  
Specialist

**MICHAELS STUDENT LIVING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
**2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**  
*Application Deadline is October 16, 2023*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please include middle initial)**

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Apartment Name you are living at for the 2023/24 school year:

Please list any community service activities you have been involved with or continue to be involved with, as well as, the number of hours you have committed to each activity.

**Community Service Activity**

**Total Hours**

Post secondary institution you are attending: \_\_\_\_\_

School Student Identification (ID) Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fall of 2023 class status:

College Freshmen

College Sophomore

College Junior

College Senior

Other (Please provide explanation in your essay)

*If you have indicated college junior or college senior, please provide an indication of your declared major*

Degrees currently held(not including high school) \_\_\_\_\_

2023 FAFSA EFC Score \_\_\_\_\_

**(US Citizens Only)**

List all scholarships, work study grants, student loans and any other form of financial aid you have been promised or have received for the 2023-24 school year as of August 30, 2023

**SOURCE OF FUNDING**

**AMOUNT**

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

PLEASE PROVIDE COPY OF DOCUMENT CERTIFYING THE AWARD

**CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE**

## APPLICANT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN STATEMENT

We have read the instruction sheet and this application form and wish to apply for a Michaels Student Living Scholarship. We agree to comply with all procedures outlined in the application information and we release to the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program, the applicant's academic records

## PERMISSION TO RELEASE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
I hereby release the 2023 FAFSA EFC documentation and all other necessary financial information to the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program for the purpose of determining financial need.

## PERMISSION TO PUBLICIZE NAME AND PHOTOGRAPH

If I am awarded a scholarship, I give my permission to use my name and/or photograph in publicity releases related to the Michaels Student Living Scholarship Program.

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**Applicant's Signature**

**Date**

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**Parent/Guardian's Signature**

**Date**

(Only required if the applicant is under the age of 18)

**MICHAELS STUDENT LIVING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

# Scholarship Application

Personal Character Reference Form

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Providing Referral: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Person Providing Referral: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number of Person Providing Referral: \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship of person providing the referral on behalf of the applicant (Example: teacher, guidance counselor, professor...)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the most appropriate response for the applicant you are referring. Please consider each item independently from the others listed

**Dependability**..... **Poor** **Good** **Outstanding**

**Honesty**.....

**Perseverance**.....

**Cognitive Aptitude**.....

**Conscientiousness**.....

**Concern for Others**.....

**Leadership**.....

I attest that the aforementioned reference of \_\_\_\_\_  
is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am not a blood relative of this applicant.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief narrative of your thoughts regarding the applicant's personal character on your letterhead stationary. Be sure to mention how you came to know the applicant and how long you have been acquainted with the individual. Other information helpful to the Selection Committee would include your perception of the applicant as a student, your belief in the applicant's ability to successfully pursue a college degree, and any unique characteristics the individual may possess.

**Please upload both pages of this reference.**

## PERSONAL ESSAY

In an essay of approximately 400 words, typed or neatly printed in your best style, identify and describe what you feel are your most positive personal qualities. Also inform the selection committee of your chosen field of endeavor. Please list co-curricular activities (sports, educational, social, civic, religious, job experiences, and/or family responsibilities) which reflect your interest in the field you have chosen to pursue through your post-secondary studies.



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