



## ***SCHOLARS PROGRAM***

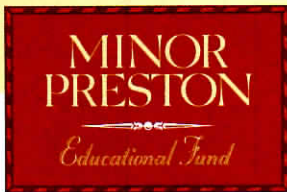
The *Minor Preston Scholars Program* is designed to provide greater financial and educational support for students during their college years and to encourage increased engagement between students and the Minor Preston Fund. The Program's primary goal is to ensure that participants succeed academically and are well prepared for a satisfying career.

*Minor Preston Scholars* benefit in several important ways.

- ❖ They receive financial assistance of \$3,000 each academic year.
- ❖ They have the ongoing support of a *Scholars Program Advisor*, who is either a member of the Minor Preston Fund's Board of Directors or an alumnus of one of the Fund's scholarship programs.
- ❖ They share the support and experience of other *Minor Preston Scholars*, especially those at their school and alumni of their school.

*Minor Preston Scholars* agree to participate in specific ways.

- ❖ They keep the *Scholars Program* informed of their academic progress so that the Program can provide timely and appropriate guidance and support.
- ❖ They set academic goals and complete a self-evaluation based on these goals each semester.
- ❖ They provide a faculty or advisor evaluation each semester, along with an academic transcript indicating that they are in good academic standing.
- ❖ They engage in a regular and meaningful manner with their *Scholars Program Advisor*.



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## **SCHOLARS PROGRAM: APPLICATION GUIDE**

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### ***What is the Scholars Program?***

- Need- and merit-based scholarship program
- \$3,000 annual award, renewable up to four years
- Tracks student progress and provides academic support
- Offers active outreach by Board and alumni advisors

### ***Who is eligible to apply?***

- Albemarle and Charlottesville public high school seniors
- First generation to go to college, minority, or immigrant
- Demonstrated financial need
- Grades and academic program sufficient for admission to post-secondary institution

### ***What is the application process?***

- Application available from school counselor in November
- Application submitted to Minor Preston by February 15
- Applications reviewed through March 31
- Finalists interviewed April 11-15
- Recipients announced by April 25

### ***What is required to apply?***

- Comprehensive application form
- Essay and short responses
- High school grade transcript
- FAFSA SAR and federal income tax return
- Academic evaluation by school

### ***Questions?***

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# Minor Preston Educational Fund

## Application for Minor Preston Scholars Program

### Section A: Applicant Information

Application Deadline: February 15

### Personal Information

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle*

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address Apartment/Unit #*

\_\_\_\_\_ *City State ZIP Code*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_

Based upon the following U.S. Census Bureau categories, I am:

- American Indian or Alaska Native (including all Original Peoples of the Americas)
- Asian (including Indian subcontinent and Philippines)
- Black or African American (including Africa and Caribbean)
- Hispanic or Latino (including Spain)
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (Original Peoples)
- White (including Middle Eastern)

### Estimated Educational Costs

List what you know about costs for the top three schools that you have applied to.

SCHOOL NAME	ANNUAL TUITION	OTHER EDUCATIONAL COSTS
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



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**Application Checklist**

*Have you read the Application Guide and done the following?*

- Completed all sections of the application?      YES    NO
  
- Provided your Social Security number?      YES    NO      If no, please  
            explain: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Written your essay and short responses?      YES    NO
  
- Attached a copy of your FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR)?      YES    NO      If no, please  
            explain: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Submitted all of the above and your parent / guardian information to your school counselor?      YES    NO

*I understand that an incomplete application will result in my not being considered for a scholarship.*

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with federal law and the law of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Rives C. Minor and Asalie M. Preston Educational Fund, Inc., does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, citizenship, religion, or sexual orientation.

# Minor Preston Educational Fund

## Application for Minor Preston Scholars Program

### Section B: Applicant Essay and Short Responses

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

#### Essay

Please write an essay of at least 500 words describing a challenge you have had to confront in your life and how you believe this prepares you for college. Attach your typed essay to this signed form.

#### Short Responses

Please write a response to any two (2) of the following topics. Each response should be at least 250 words. Attach your typed responses to this signed form.

- You are required to spend the next year of your life in either the past or the future. Choose one and explain why.
- Describe a daily routine or a tradition that may seem ordinary to others but has meaning or significance for you.
- Describe a time when your curiosity led you someplace you were not expecting to go.
- Select the title of a song, movie, or television show and explain how it describes your life.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
of Applicant

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**Dependents**

List those (other than the applicant) who depend upon you for financial or other support.

NAME OF DEPENDENT	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	STATUS (In school / Working / Unemployed / Retired)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Financial Information**

**Total Assets**

Include the value of any home you own, your savings, and investments.

HOME \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SAVINGS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

INVESTMENTS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Liabilities**

If you own a home, include your mortgage balance. Also include any other loans or debts.

MORTGAGE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LOANS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER DEBTS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Circumstances**

Describe any unusual circumstances that limit or reduce family income or increase family expenses.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Application Checklist

Have you read the Application Guide and done the following?

Provided complete parent or guardian information?

YES NO

Provided a copy of your most recent federal tax return?

YES NO

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Returned the parent or guardian section to your child's school counselor?

YES NO

*I understand that an incomplete application will result in my child not being considered for a scholarship.*

Signature of  
Parent or  
Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# Minor Preston Educational Fund

## Application for Minor Preston Scholars Program

### Section D: Evaluation of Academic Performance and Character

*This section is to be completed by the school counselor and teacher(s)*

#### Applicant

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Last*

*First*

*Middle*

#### Evaluation Criteria

*Minor Preston Scholars Program* scholarships are awarded on the basis of an applicant's financial need and the likelihood that they will succeed in college if offered the financial, advising, and mentoring resources the *Scholars Program* provides. So that the Scholarship Committee might evaluate all applicants consistently, please address with specificity each of the following criteria in your evaluation of this applicant:

1. Strength of academic program and coursework
2. Initiative, motivation, and intellectual curiosity
3. Educational and career goal-setting
4. Character and maturity

In addition to an evaluation of the applicant on these four criteria, the Scholarship Committee welcomes any additional information that the applicant's counselor or teacher(s) believe would benefit the Committee's review.

#### Submission

*I have reviewed the attached evaluation of the applicant for completeness and accuracy.*

Signature

of School Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# Minor Preston Educational Fund

## Application for Minor Preston Scholars Program

### Section E: Certification of Academic Status

*This section is to be completed by the school counselor*

#### Applicant

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Numerical or Decile Rank (in a class of (#)) \_\_\_\_\_

GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Weighted? Yes   
No

#### College Entrance Tests

Does this student qualify for either an SAT or ACT fee waiver? Yes  No

#### SAT

Critical Reading Score \_\_\_\_\_ DATE(S) TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_  
Mathematics Score \_\_\_\_\_ DATE(S) TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_  
Writing Score \_\_\_\_\_ DATE(S) TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_

#### ACT

Subject 1 Score \_\_\_\_\_ DATE(S) TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject 2 Score \_\_\_\_\_ DATE(S) TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject 3 Score \_\_\_\_\_ DATE(S) TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_

#### Application Checklist

*Please provide the following along with this certification:*

- Applicant's current high school transcript
- Section D: Evaluation of Academic Performance and Character

*Please ensure that the applicant has completed the application to the best of their ability and has provided the following:*

- Section A: Applicant Information
- Section B: Applicant Essay and Short Responses

- Section C: Parent or Guardian Information
- FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR) (applicant may choose to submit this directly to the Scholarship Committee)
- Most recent federal tax return (parent or guardian may choose to submit this directly to the Scholarship Committee)

**Certification**

*I certify that the applicant's grade transcript and test scores are complete and accurate.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
of School Counselor

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# MINOR PRESTON

*Educational Fund*

*Supporting the Education of Charlottesville and Albemarle Youth*

## History of the Fund

The Rives C. Minor and Asalie M. Preston Educational Fund, a Charlottesville-based charitable trust, was endowed by Asalie M. Preston upon her death in 1982. She envisioned her estate dedicated to educating young people in her community, a goal to which she and her father, Rives C. Minor, had dedicated their entire lives as teachers.

Rives Minor was born in Albemarle County on January 19, 1856. He entered the county's public school in 1868, and by age seventeen had begun what was to be a lifetime of teaching. After graduating from Storers College in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, he taught in the public schools of Bath County for nine years before beginning a twenty-one year tenure as an educator in Albemarle County public schools. Rives Minor died on March 8, 1926.

Asalie Preston was born December 7, 1903. She taught in Albemarle County public schools from 1922 until 1933, when she entered St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia. She resumed teaching in Albemarle County public schools in 1936, retiring in 1969. She lived for many years in the "Rock House," a site prominent in local African American history, now a Virginia Landmark and National Historic Place, and home to Legal Aid offices that provide legal services to low-income members of the community. Asalie Preston died on July 29, 1982.

Asalie Preston thought it fitting that her legacy be a charitable fund to support the higher education of students and graduates of the public schools of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. It is a credit to this vision that her sisters, Glenna E. Minor and Bernice M. Hargis, followed her extremely generous example by actively supporting the Fund during their lifetimes, and by contributing substantially to its endowment upon their deaths.

Although Asalie Preston did not live to see the fruition of her gift to the community, the spirit of her and her father's commitment to youth lives on in the work of the Rives C. Minor and Asalie M. Preston Educational Fund. The Fund is a testament to the selfless and untiring labors of a singular African American family.

The objectives of the Fund, which began awarding scholarships in 1983, include:

- The pursuit of educational, scientific, and charitable aims



*Asalie M. Preston (left) endowed the fund in 1982. She and her father, Rives C. Minor, were lifelong educators.*

- The support and recognition of worthy public school students in the Charlottesville-Albemarle community
- The awarding of scholarships to graduating seniors of the public high schools of Charlottesville and Albemarle County for public or private postsecondary education

Since 1983, the Fund has provided over \$2.3 million in renewable, need-based scholarships to nearly 1000 graduates of the public high schools of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. These scholarships have provided much needed support for students at colleges, universities, and technical and professional schools in Virginia and elsewhere in the United States.

Over the past quarter-century, students have applied their scholarships to undergraduate study at the University of Virginia, Virginia State University, Virginia Tech, the College of William and Mary, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Piedmont Virginia Community College, as well as the University of North Carolina, Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Columbia University, among others. Students have also pursued graduate, legal, and medical studies with the Fund's support.

In furtherance of its educational objectives, the Fund undertook in 1994 to support the Imani Project, an early intervention program at Charlottesville's Venable Elementary School, and later the Walker Learning Lab. The Fund provided nearly \$50,000 towards administrative costs of these projects, with the total costs being assumed over time by Charlottesville Schools. Most important, the Fund awarded \$45,000 in scholarships to graduates of the Imani Project. Since 2007, the Fund has also supported the educational initiatives of Legal Aid's JustChildren program.

Looking ahead to the next quarter-century, the Minor-Preston Educational Fund hopes to expand its scholarship program while seeking out other worthy educational initiatives in the Charlottesville and Albemarle community.