

Faithwalk Harvest Center

Ministry · Outreach · Community



2027 MLK Scholarship Program

Application for Graduating High School Seniors

"Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education." — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Purpose of the Scholarship

Faithwalk Harvest Center is dedicated and committed to supporting young people's growth and development. The purpose of the Faithwalk Harvest Center 2027 MLK Scholarship Program is to recognize and support graduating high school seniors as they pursue higher education. Since 2003, Faithwalk Harvest Center has served families through ministry, outreach, and practical support.

We believe that when we sow into a young person, we help shape character, purpose, and legacy. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wrote, "Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education." Our scholarship program is one way we seek to put that vision into action.

This scholarship honors students who embody Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of justice, equality and education and demonstrate how his legacy continues to positively shape our lives and communities. Recipients will be awarded a minimum of a \$1,000 scholarship.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a graduating high school senior.
- Must be accepted into an accredited college, university, or vocational (trade) program.
- Involvement in community service and/or volunteerism.
- Demonstrate a commitment to helping others.
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above.
- A letter of recommendation from a high school teacher, guidance counselor, or professional reference (one only). Letters should be no more than one page and cannot be from family members.

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2027 MLK Scholarship Program

Disbursement of Funds

- Proof of written program acceptance (e.g., official letter or email acceptance) must be provided prior to the release of funds.
- Funds will be sent directly to the recipient's chosen educational institution (Financial Aid/Bursar's Office).

Selection Process

- Applications will be reviewed by our scholarship committee.
- Awards will be based on a combination of community service, academic achievement, and essay quality.
- Recipients will be notified by December 18, 2026.
- Recipients will be recognized during our MLK Scholarship Celebration on January 18, 2027, in Carpentersville, Illinois. Recipients will be invited to share their educational plans. Attendance is required.

Deadline

Please complete application material and submit to info@faithwalkharvestctr.org no later than October 1, 2026.

Contact Information

Questions About the 2027 MLK Scholarship Program:

Dr. Dexter K. Ball, Senior Pastor, Faithwalk Harvest Center
400 Maple Avenue | Carpentersville, IL 60110
847-997-4824
Email: info@faithwalkharvestctr.org

Faithwalk Harvest Center

2027 MLK Scholarship Program

Applicant Information

Full Name

Street Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Phone Number

Email Address

High School

Graduation Date

Current GPA (4.0 scale)

College / Post-Secondary Plans

Institution You Plan to Attend

Type of Institution

☐ College ☐ University ☐ Trade / Vocational School

Intended Major / Program of Study

Essay Question 1 — Community Service & Volunteerism

Instructions:

Please respond in 300–500 words. Do not use AI to generate your answer. Write in your own voice and from your personal experience.

Question:

Describe your current and past involvement in community service, volunteerism, or any community outreach efforts.

300 – 500 words required

Essay Question 2 — Dr. King's Legacy & Your Educational Goals

Instructions:

Please respond in 300–500 words. Do not use AI to generate your answer. Write in your own voice and from your personal experience.

Question:

Describe how Dr. King's legacy has influenced your educational goals and how you plan to make a positive impact on your community.

300 – 500 words required

Essay Question 3 — Community Problem & Your Role

Instructions:

Please respond in 300–500 words. Do not use AI to generate your answer. Write in your own voice and from your personal experience.

Question:

What is a problem you see affecting your community or peers today, and what role do you see yourself playing in changing this problem? You may reflect on your view of justice, leadership, and/or responsibility that has been shaped through your experiences.

300 – 500 words required

Essay Question 4 — Challenges & Resilience

Instructions:

Please respond in 300–500 words. Do not use AI to generate your answer. Write in your own voice and from your personal experience.

Question:

Describe any challenges or hardships you or your family have experienced. Describe how you have dealt with these challenges/hardships or have overcome them.

300 – 500 words required

Applicant Statement & Certification

I certify that the information provided in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that incomplete applications may not be considered. I also understand that misrepresentation of any information may result in disqualification.

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent / Guardian Consent — Required If Applicant Is Under 18

Parent/Guardian Information (Required if Applicant is Under 18 Years of Age):

Parent / Guardian Full Name

Relationship to Applicant

Telephone Number

Email Address

Parent / Guardian Consent and Certification:

I am the parent or legal guardian of the above-named applicant. I have reviewed this application and authorize the applicant to apply for the Faithwalk Harvest Center MLK 2027 Scholarship Program. I consent to the collection, use, review, and verification of the applicant's information and supporting documents for purposes of determining eligibility, evaluating the application, administering any scholarship award, communicating with the applicant and parent/guardian, and complying with applicable legal, tax, audit, and recordkeeping requirements.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

Confidentiality, Authorization, and Limited Use of Information

Faithwalk Harvest Center will keep scholarship applications and supporting documents confidential and will use them only for legitimate scholarship-related purposes, including application review, eligibility verification, selection of recipients, award administration, applicant communication, recordkeeping, and compliance with applicable legal, tax, audit, insurance, and reporting requirements.

Access to applicant information will be limited to the scholarship committee, designated church leadership, and other persons or service providers with a legitimate need to know for scholarship administration and who are expected to maintain confidentiality. Faithwalk Harvest Center will not sell or publicly disclose applicant information except with the written consent of the applicant and, if applicable, the applicant's parent or legal guardian; as reasonably necessary to verify information provided in the application; as required by law, subpoena, court order, governmental inquiry, tax reporting, audit, or insurance requirements; or for public recognition of scholarship recipients as authorized by separate written consent.

Application materials may be retained for administrative, legal, tax, audit, and recordkeeping purposes and will be securely destroyed or deleted when no longer reasonably needed. By signing this application, the applicant and, if applicable, the parent or legal guardian acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agreed to these terms, which shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois.

Media, Photograph, and Publicity Authorization

■ **Required: This application will not be considered complete unless signed below.**

As a condition of submitting this application and, if selected, accepting a scholarship award, I authorize Faithwalk Harvest Center and its authorized representatives to photograph, film, video record, and audio record me during scholarship-related interviews, ceremonies, presentations, and events.

I grant Faithwalk Harvest Center permission to use my name, school, photograph, image, likeness, voice, quotations, selected biographical information, and scholarship-award information in press releases, news and media outreach, printed publications and programs, websites, social-media platforms, fundraising materials, and other publicity relating to the MLK Scholarship Program and Faithwalk Harvest Center's educational and community-outreach mission.

I understand that these materials may be cropped, edited, reproduced, published, and distributed without further notice, approval, or compensation, provided they do not materially misrepresent me or imply my endorsement of an unrelated product, service, or organization. Published materials may be publicly accessible and shared by third parties, and materials already printed, published, or distributed may not be recalled.

This authorization does not permit disclosure of confidential financial information, academic records, recommendation letters, or other private application materials. By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understand, and accept this required authorization.

Applicant Authorization

Applicant Full Name (print)

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent / Legal Guardian Authorization — Required If Applicant Is Under 18

I am the applicant's parent or legal guardian and authorize the uses described above on the applicant's behalf.

Parent / Legal Guardian Full Name (print)

Relationship to Applicant

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

Date