



Professional Jamaicans for Jamaica, Inc.

Uplifting Our Nation's Children, One Child At A Time

High School Scholarship Awards Program

Professional Jamaicans for Jamaica, Inc. (PJFJ) is a non-profit organization based in Bridgeport, Connecticut, USA. It was founded by Horace A. Daley and its business operations commenced on May 10, 2010. The organization is dedicated to providing financial support to high school students in Jamaica who demonstrate academic excellence.

Program Guidelines & Priorities

For the 2020/2021 academic year, scholarships will be awarded to students attending high schools in Jamaica.

The organization invites new and current high school students with strong academic performance, who seek financial assistance to offset their educational costs. They should also volunteer in their communities in non-school sponsored events and participate in extracurricular school activities.

Applicants **must** meet the minimum grade point average requirements, have total family annual income **under JMD \$500,000**, and will attend high school in the upcoming academic year. Our scholarships are geared towards children faced with financial hardship.

Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the high schools in August 2020, or thereafter.

Applicants must have the endorsement of their school administration on their application attesting they are qualified for this scholarship program. We strongly suggest that each school present this opportunity to the strongest applicants that match this program's guidelines.



AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Ms. Esmie L. Walters Scholarship

In honor of Ms. Esmie L. Walters, Professional Jamaicans for Jamaica, Inc. have established an essay competition in her name to recognize her commitment to education in Jamaica. This scholarship will be awarded to a high school student in Jamaica with the Best Written Essay.

2. Dr. Rashida Biggs Scholarship

Dr. Rashida Biggs Academic Scholarship was established to recognized her commitment to education and will be awarded to high school students with a minimum **75% Overall GPA**; minimum 85% average in English.

3. Mr. Ryon Mallett Scholarship

Mr. Ryon Mallett Academic Scholarship was established to recognized his commitment to education and will be awarded to high school students with a minimum **70% Overall GPA**; minimum 75% average in English

4. The Ladies by the Well Scholarship

The Ladies by the Well Academic Scholarship was established to recognized the group's commitment to education and will be awarded to adolescent female high school students who are determine to exceed in their educational development, but faced with financial difficulties.

5. The Taylor Family Scholarship (GSAT)

The Taylor Family Academic Scholarship was established to recognized the family's commitment to education and will be awarded to three (3) GSAT students who will attend high school in the new school term.

6. The Oshnel Bryan Memorial Scholarship (GSAT)

The Oshnel Bryan Memorial Academic Scholarship was established in memory of our past scholarship recipient and will be award to a male GSAT student who will attend high school in the new school term.

Email **ONE** copy of a **complete application package** to The Scholarship Committee at scholarships@pjfi.org

Incomplete application package will be deemed **null and void** and will not be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee. No further communication will be provided.

Contact Information

Visit our website at www.pjfi.org/contact-us to send non-scholarship questions or comments directly to the organization. We value your feedback and will respond promptly.



INSTRUCTIONS

Requirements

Essays **and** Personal Statement must be written by Student and be aged-appropriate. Documents must be typed double-spaced, one-inch margin, and 12-point regular font. Whenever possible, use titles, headings, lists, tables, etc. Include cover page with student name, school name, and word count. Submit in **MS Word format only** - **NO** PDF, JPEG, typewriter or handwritten submissions will be accepted. Grammar, spelling, organization, and overall presentation are very important!!!

PERSONAL STATEMENT

... Mandatory for **ALL** Students ...
(1,500 words max)

Write a short statement in support of your application. This should address the following points:

1. Why are you applying for this scholarship, and how will you benefit from the opportunities it will provide?
2. Discuss any challenges you have dealt with, overcame, and how these lessons have influenced you.
3. How have you contributed to your school and community during the academic year? In retrospect, what could you have done differently?



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APPLICATION FORM

*** Please answer **ALL** questions completely and truthfully. Do not leave any questions unanswered. Please write clearly. ***

1	Student Name (First Middle Last):				
2	Date of Birth (MM-DD-YYYY):	Age:		Gender:	
3	Past School (Current GSAT Students Only):				
	Grade Recently Completed:				
	New / Current School:				
	School Address:				
4	Name of Father, Step-father, or Legal Guardian: (does NOT matter if this person lives with you)				
	Profession:		Company Name:		
	Name of Mother, Step-mother, or Legal Guardian: (does NOT matter if this person lives with you)				
	Profession:		Company Name:		
5	Which adult(s) do you live with – parent(s), step-parent, or legal guardians? Please be specific.				
6	Home Address:				
	Contact Phone #:	Home: (876)	Cell: (876)		
	Email Addresses:				
7	How many siblings do you have?	How many siblings live with you?	Excluding you , how many siblings (under 19 years old) <u>in your household</u> will attend school in the new academic year?		
8	Including your parents, are you the first in your immediate family to attend high school?				
9	How did you learn about our organization? Please be specific. Give name of Student Ambassador, if applicable.				
10	Are you currently enrolled in our youth development program as a Student Ambassador?				
11	Have you ever received any scholarships or financial assistance from our organization, when?				
12	Do you currently receive or did you receive financial assistance or any support from other sources, during the last 12 months - e.g. Jamaican government, school, church, companies, etc.? List ALL sources and type of assistance and support.				
13	Will you receive or are you expecting financial assistance or support from other sources for the new academic year? List ALL sources, type of assistance and support, and expected amount (if known).				
14	Which ONE of the seven (7) scholarships are you applying for? Do not apply for the wrong scholarship.				



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STATEMENT of ACCURACY for STUDENTS

I hereby affirm that all the information provided by me is **true** and it is not my intention to mislead the organization.

I hereby understand that **I must be present at any potential awards ceremony to receive my scholarship.** In addition, my picture may be taken and used to promote the scholarship program.

*** Transportation assistance will be considered for eligible students who live more than one hour away from the awards ceremony location. ***

I hereby understand that it is my responsibility to provide the appropriate information for my scholarship to be paid directly to my high school in August 2018, or thereafter.

Student Signature:		Date:	
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STATEMENT of ACCURACY for PARENTS / GUARDIANS

I hereby affirm that all the information provided by me is **true** and it is not my intention to mislead the organization.

Father and/or Legal Guardian:		Date:	
Mother and/or Legal Guardian:		Date:	

STATEMENT of SUPPORT by SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

We (Guidance Counselor & Vice-Principal) hereby affirm that this application meets the criteria set forth in the Program Guidelines & Priorities. We also recommend this student to Professional Jamaicans for Jamaica, Inc.

If your school does not have a Guidance Counselor, your application must be signed by the school's Principal. We require at least two signatures, without exception.

Guidance Counselor:		Date:	
Vice-Principal:		Date:	
Principal:		Date:	
School Seal & Stamp: IMPRINT MUST BE VERY VISIBLE			

NOTE: Please review the **APPLICATION CHECKLIST** on the following page, before submitting your documents. Your application will be automatically disqualified, if it is incomplete. Thank you.



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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

If your FINAL school report or CSEC results will not be available by the application deadline, **kindly submit everything else before the deadline**, so you can be placed on the waiting list. No decisions will be made, until we receive the missing information. Your application will be automatically disqualified, if it is missing anything else.

... Email ALL relevant documents TOGETHER and in the correct formats (MS Word and PDF only) ...

- Completed Application Form (incomplete forms will not be processed – automatic disqualification)
- Signed (1) Statement of Accuracy for Students
(2) Statement of Accuracy for Parents/Guardians
(3) Statement of Support by School Administration
- Written Essay
- Personal Statement (mandatory for ALL students – MS Word format)
- Original GSAT Placement Letter (showing results and new school placement)
- Original CSEC Transcript (from CXC website, or confirmation letter written on official school stationery and signed by Principal)
- School Reports (ALL 3 reports for current grade – Christmas, Easter, and Final)**
- School Fee Invoice Letter (**NOT** copies of the vouchers payable to the bank)
*** letter must be written on official school stationery, showing specific student name, and breakdown of amounts owed by specific student ***
- Proof of Income (last 3 pay statements for **BOTH** parents/guardians showing standardized deductions)
*** if either unemployed or self-employed, submit signed personal letter explaining financial situation, source of income and annual amount
*** personal letter must be notarized by JP to confirm your comments; JP seal imprint, full name, and contact details must be **very visible**

** If your school only issues two school reports and not three, it **must be evident** on the other school reports, or confirmed in writing by the school administration. This might be the case for some Grade 6 and Grade 11 students.