



To: Graduating African-American Male High School Seniors - Philadelphia

From: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated - Psi Chapter

RE: Raymond Pace Alexander Scholarship

Since its founding on December 4, 1906 on the campus of Cornell University (Ithaca, New York), Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has supplied voice and vision to the struggle of African-Americans and ALL people around the world.

The Fraternity was started by seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of Brotherhood among African descendants in this country. The visionary founders, known as the "Jewels" of the Fraternity, are Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy. Initially, the Fraternity served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially, at Cornell. As the organization grew, the Jewel founders and early leaders of the Fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity. Scholastic achievement and preparation for the future have always been concepts held high by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Much of our external emphasis has focused on aiding members of the communities in which we live in their quests to achieve their academic and professional goals. Even while recognizing the need to help correct the educational, economic, political, and social injustices faced by Americans of color, Alpha has continued to stress academic excellence among its members and its communities.

In 1922, the Fraternity established its landmark education initiative: "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College". The program concentrates on the importance of completing secondary and collegiate education as a road to advancement. Completing school is one of the best predictors of future economic success. Statistics prove the value of academics and how it is making a difference in the success of young African-American men. Through the "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College" educational initiative, young men receive information and learn strategies that facilitate success. Alpha men provide youth participants with excellent role models to emulate and, with scholarships, help them defray the costs of post-secondary education.

The Fraternity and Psi Chapter have been dedicated in the struggle to achieve academic excellence. Accordingly, Psi Chapter invites all qualified candidates to compete in this year's competition for the 2020 Raymond Pace Alexander Scholarship. This scholarship will award recipients with a \$1,000 stipend to support their educational journey at the four-year institution of their choosing.

Enclosed you will find the criteria for this year's competition. You may also download the application at <https://mightypsialphas.wixsite.com/1906>. **Applications for consideration must be completed and returned by April 25, 2020.** After careful consideration, the winner(s) will be notified by being presented with the award at a public event and/or during the scholarship awards ceremony held at the student's high school.

Raymond Pace Alexander Annual Scholarship

Each applicant must:

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and must provide proof of his academic standing via a transcript or official documentation from his school
2. Be classified as a graduating African American male high school senior and provide a high school photo.
3. Be accepted and planning to pursue a bachelor's degree at a four-year college/university this fall (include acceptance letter and assigned college student ID number, if available)
4. Be recommended or nominated by an individual from his community or from his school (One letter of recommendation is required; maximum of two letters will be accepted)
5. Write an essay on the following: "The importance of academic excellence to my personal success and to the success of my community".
6. Both reside and attend a High School in the City of Philadelphia
7. Complete the application packet and return it before the deadline:

DEADLINE: April 25, 2020

Complete applications should be e-mailed to
rpasfoundation@gmail.com

or sent, postmarked by the deadline, via postal mail to:

**Raymond Pace Alexander Scholarship
c/o Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. - Psi Chapter
3900 Walnut Street MB 164
Philadelphia, PA 19104**

Best wishes to all potential candidates. Please continue to march onward and upward in pursuit of higher education.

Sincerely,

The Brothers of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated - Psi Chapter.

PART 4: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

List any school clubs, school organizations, and school activities that you have participated in since the 9th grade. For each item listed, put the year(s) you participated and any positions held (i.e. president, chairman, secretary, etc.).

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PART 5: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

List any community activities, organizations, and service projects (i.e. Church Choir, Project Alpha, Feed the Homeless, etc.) that you have participated in since the 9th grade. For each item listed, put the year(s) you participated and any positions held (i.e. chairman, organizer, etc.).

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PART 6: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

List any academic honors, awards, and achievements that you have received since the 9th grade. For each item listed, put the year(s) you received the item.

PART 7: ESSAY

Write an essay on the theme or question below. The essay should be typewritten and should not exceed 2 pages in length. Your essay will be judged on grammar, clarity and relevance to the question/theme, and adherence to the above criteria. The essay will account for a **major** portion of the scoring criteria for the awarding of the scholarship. Strict adherence and relevance to the topic is key:

Theme:

How can you use your academic success to positively impact your community?

Why is this important?

PART 8: RECOMMENDATIONS, TRANSCRIPTS, AND VERIFICATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS: You will need to obtain a letter of recommendation from an official in the school that you attend (teacher, coach, counselor, principal, or assistant principal) or from a person in the community (pastor, family, friend, church member, employer, etc.). One letter is required. Two letters will be accepted at maximum. Applications are considered incomplete until recommendations are received.

TRANSCRIPTS AND VERIFICATIONS: The applicant must obtain a copy of his high school transcript or an official document verifying his academic record from the guidance counselor. The documents should show the applicant's GPA and, if possible, the applicant's percentile rank and S.A.T. scores. Applications are considered incomplete until transcripts and/or academic verifications are received by the scholarship board.

These documents can be e-mailed as a pdf along with the scholarship application to:
rpasfoundation@gmail.com or mailed to:

Raymond Pace Alexander Scholarship
c/o Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. - Psi Chapter
3900 Walnut Street MB 164
Philadelphia, PA 19104

PART 9: APPLICANT'S CHECKLIST

The following checklist is provided for the applicant's benefit. To be eligible for this scholarship, the applicant must make sure all the following are done and the completed application package must be returned and postmarked by the given deadline.

- Personal Information completed (Part 1)
- School Information completed (Part 2)
- University/College Information completed (Part 3)
- Extracurricular Activities section completed (Part 4)
- Community Involvement & Civic Activities section completed (Part 5)
- Academic Achievement section completed (Part 6)
- Essay completed and included in application package (Part 7)
- Recommendation included in application package or e-mailed to scholarship board (Part 8)
- College acceptance letter with assigned college student ID number (if available) included.

Best of Luck and Thank You for your Interest in the

Raymond Pace Alexander Scholarship

Raymond Pace Alexander Scholarship awarded by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated - Psi Chapter