



Bel Alton High School Alumni Association CDC

2025 Scholarship Program

The Bel Alton High School Alumni Association is proud to offer scholarships to Charles County's graduating public high school seniors and other young adults in honor of our founders.

Our founders saved an important part of Black cultural history in Charles County. They boldly interceded with the Charles County government in the late 1980s to stop its planned demolition of our historic Bel Alton High School building, raised six million dollars to restore the building, and ran a community center in the building from 2008 to 2015.

The Bel Alton High School was one of two segregated high schools that offered a secondary-level education for the 'colored children' of Charles County. The school opened in 1938, during the pre-WWII 'Jim Crow' era, and ran until the County integrated schools in 1966.

The Bel Alton High School is the only **Historically Black High School** in Charles County whose original building structure is still fully intact. The school building and the black community it served are important parts of Charles County's heritage. The National Park Service is considering Bel Alton High School for placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Bel Alton High School Alumni Association, in honor of its founders and the cultural history of the Bel Alton High School, is pleased to offer scholarships to help students defray some of the cost of pursuing their educational goals.

The BAHSAA Scholarship Program also helps to preserve, promote, and share the cultural history of historic Bel Alton High School and the Black community that it served.



FOUNDING MEMBERS

BAHSAACDC

Officers

Matthews N. Wills, Chair
Andre Smith, Vice Chair
Joseph Johnson, Treasurer
Mary E. Whalen, Secretary

2025 Scholarship Committee

Joyce M. Brown, Chair
Lisa Ambers
Joseph Johnson
Matthews N. Wills
Andre Smith

2025 BAHSAACDC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicant eligibility:

1. Must have one of the following statuses:
 - Graduating Charles County public high school senior in the class of 2025 with a 2.5 or higher GPA.
 - Former Charles County public high school graduate living in Charles County with a 2.5 or higher GPA. Must be between 18 and 25 years old.
 - Continuing education (college/university) student who received a Charles County high school diploma and has a 2.5 or higher GPA.
 - A 2025 graduating public high school senior or a continuing education student, with a 2.5 or higher GPA, is related to a member of the Bel Alton High School Alumni Association.
 - Charles County resident with a Maryland GED diploma and a combined (GED) passing score of 164 or higher.

Note: The scholarship award is contingent upon enrollment in an accredited Historically Black College or University (HBCU), or enrollment in the College of Southern Maryland or enrollment in a vocational or trade school.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

1. The entire application **must be typed**.
2. **Incomplete, unintelligible, and late applications WILL NOT be considered.**
3. A **most-recent** official high school or continuing education transcript or GED transcript **MUST** be included with the application.
4. Completed applications and all required documentation must be returned via email to bahsaascholarships@gmail.com. **Completed applications must be received by the BAHSAA Scholarship Committee by midnight Monday, April 14, 2025.**
5. The Scholarship Committee will review all applications. Each applicant will be notified by email of the Committee's decision to award a scholarship.
6. All communications between the Scholarship Committee and applicants will be by email. The email address is bahsaascholarships@gmail.com.
7. Scholarship awardees may be requested to attend a BAHSAACDC scholarship event to accept their scholarship awards. The Scholarship Committee will make checks payable to the awardees for college related expenses.
8. The awardee must present proof of enrollment for the academic year in order to receive the award.
9. Awardees may be asked for permission to use their images in BAHSAACDC scholarship promotions.
10. Awards are for one year. Must apply each year.

2025 BAHSAACDC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please provide the information requested below. Insert N/A if not applicable:

Name: (First) _____ (MI) _____ (Last) _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

High School (2025): _____ Graduation Date: _____

College/University (2025): _____ Classification: _____

Vocational/Trade School (2025): _____

GED Certification Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Name of institution attending in fall of 2025:

College/University: _____ Classification: _____

Address: _____

Major: _____ Degree pursued: _____

Attending: Full-time Part-time

College of Southern Maryland

Major: _____ Degree pursued: _____

Vocational/Trade School: _____

Address: _____

Field of Study: _____

Have you received other scholarships or financial aid for the 2025 academic year?

Yes No

Are you eligible to vote? Yes No Are you registered? Yes No . If yes, provide proof of registration.

Are you related to a member of BAHSAACDC? Yes No

If yes, please list the name and relationship.

2025 BAHS AACDC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

II. SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

School Name (High School/College/University/Other): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Offices held (from 2023 to present):

Honors (from 2023 to present):

School Activities (from 2023 to present):

2025 BAHSAACDC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

III. MARYLAND GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) DIPLOMA

Date Received: _____ / _____ / _____

GED Combined Passing Score: _____

IV. COMMUNITY SERVICE

List and briefly describe your community service activities (from 2023 to present):

V. CAREER GOALS

On a separate sheet write a 250-to-500-word essay that describes your goals, your plans for the future, and what you would like to accomplish after you receive your degree. How will receiving a scholarship from the BAHSAACDC help you achieve your goals?

VI. YOUR PERSPECTIVE

On a separate sheet, in 250 to 500 of your own words, give your perspective on the historical significance of the former all-Black segregated Charles County high schools like Bel Alton, and the role they played in the education of Black children from pre-WWII to present day.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print name: _____

PROFILE CHECKLIST

Please use the list below to assist with submitting a complete packet. Check each item included. Submit checklist with your application.

1. Profile Checklist Page
2. Personal Information
3. School Experiences
4. Maryland General Education Development (GED) Diploma
5. Community Service
6. Career Goals Essay
7. “Your Perspective” Essay—Historical significance of all-Black segregated Charles County high schools
8. Official Transcript
9. Original Picture (not scanned or copied)

Name (please print)

Signature