

## City of Elgin

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee  
150 Dexter Ct.  
Elgin, Illinois 60120

### 35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Scholarship Application

**“GIVE US THE BALLOT”**

**“Voting is the Foundation Stone for Political Action.”**

**DEADLINE: December 9, 2019**

The Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship is awarded annually to Elgin students who have demonstrated an active interest and meaningful involvement in the areas of human rights, civil rights, social justice and/or world peace. Scholarships may also be awarded to students whose activities are exemplary and reflect. Multiple scholarships **of \$1,000.00 will be** awarded based upon the number of applicants and the quality of the submissions.

Eligibility:

- Must be a graduating high school student who resides in Elgin. In some cases, scholarships may be awarded to students outside of the Elgin area.
- Must possess a GPA of 2.5 or above
- Must show sound character and leadership qualities
- Must have a demonstrated record of service to the community

Application Period/Timetable (estimated):

- Distribution of application materials: **November 4, 2019**
- Application Deadline: **December 9, 2019**
- Committee review of applications and interviews of applicants, **December 18 - December 19, 2019**
- Notification to award recipients - **by December 27, 2019**
- Recipients are asked to represent MLK- City of Elgin at community events, including the United Black Scholarship Dinner (April).
- MLK Prayer Breakfast participation - **January 18, 2020**
- MLK Youth Conference **January 20, 2020** – Mandatory for scholarship awardees

**Submit Completed Applications To:**

MLK Scholarship Committee  
City of Elgin  
150 Dexter Court  
Elgin, IL 60121  
(847) 931-5607  
mlk@cityofelgin.org

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Program**  
Sponsored by the City of Elgin Human Relations Commission  
(With support from various community partners)

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

***Due Monday, December 9, 2019 to the MLK Scholarship Committee.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name) (Middle Name or Initial) (Last / Family Name)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' contact information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name) (Last Name)

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to contact you (Please select one):

Daytime

Evening (after 5:00 pm)

What colleges or universities have you applied to?

Name of College; University City/State; Status (accepted, waiting, other)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**What major field of study do you intend to enter (if known)?** \_\_\_\_\_

The City of Elgin Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarships are awarded in January each year and are for one year of school only. The Human Relations Commission/MLK Scholarship Committee will require enrollment verification from the college/university that you attend prior to the disbursement of the scholarship.

I certify that the information provided herein is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false statements may lead to disqualification from the scholarship program.

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

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**A. You are required to create and submit a two (2) minute video that is linked to YouTube.**

**The video will reflect this year's theme:  
Give us the Ballot "Voting is the Foundation for Political Action"**

**B. You are required to submit the following written responses:**

1. A brief written description (one page maximum, double-spaced, 12-point font) of what you are conveying in your video.
2. On a separate document answer briefly the following questions:
  - What college degree will you pursue and what are your career goals?
  - Please describe our involvement in extracurricular, volunteer or community activities
  - Are you or your family facing any financial hardship that will make it difficult for you to attend college this fall? If so, please explain.
3. Please **choose one** option:
  - a. Explain what Dr. King meant by "**Voting is the Foundation for Political Action**"
  - b. Describe a time in which your school or you have had to stand strong together in a time of controversy and challenge in the community.
  - c. Describe the ways in which a teacher or leader in the community has reacted to controversy or challenge that has promoted justice.
  - d. Describe the ways your desired college major or desired career path allows you to contribute to society and your community by standing firm in your belief and demonstrate that you can affect social change.

**C. Attach two letters of reference:** One (1) from a teacher at your school and two (1) from an individual who is familiar with your background, abilities, activities, and your potential for achievement in college/university. Reference letters must include the name, address and phone number of the person providing the reference. Family members and persons under 18 years of age may not provide letters of reference for you.

**D. Attach a copy of your transcript** through the Fall 2019 semester showing the classes you have taken and grades received. You can obtain this through the scholarship coordinator at your school. It does not have to be an "official" transcript.

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Checklist:

- Application form completed and signed
- Responses to questions attached
- Summary description/explanation of the video (one-page maximum) attached
- Video **linked to YouTube** provided
- Two letters of reference attached
- Transcript (through the Fall 2019 semester) attached

Please call Gail Cohen with any questions: (847) 931-5607

Email to: [mlk@cityofelgin.org](mailto:mlk@cityofelgin.org) or mail to MLK Committee, 150 Dexter Court, Elgin IL 60120