

Scholarship Application Packet

*Presented By:*

*PFLAG Columbia - Howard County, MD*

*The extended family of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer plus community.*

**Purpose:**

 To recognize outstanding lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer plus (LGBTQ+) and allied students

 To encourage the pursuit of post-secondary education for self-identified LGBTQ+ and allies

 To foster a positive image of the LGBTQ+ society

**Scholarship Offered:**

 Columbia - Howard County PFLAG Scholarship for Outstanding LGBTQ+ and Allied Students

 Amount of Scholarship: $2,000.00

**Eligibility:**

 Self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer plus (LGBTQ+) or as an ally who demonstrates outstanding support directly to the LGBTQ+ society and supports equality for all

 A resident of the state of Maryland who is currently attending, or planning to attend, a post-secondary educational institution during the 2021-2022 academic year, or

 A student currently attending, or planning to attend, a Maryland post-secondary educational institution in the state of Maryland during the 2021-2022 academic year (Maryland residency not required if attending a Maryland educational institution)

 Must complete a Columbia - Howard County PFLAG Scholarship application **IN ITS ENTIRETY** including all required supplemental forms (incomplete applications will not be considered)

 Cannot be receiving full tuition remission from other sources to fund the education (e.g., other full-tuition scholarships, established college trust fund, etc.)

 Cannot be a prior recipient of the Columbia - Howard County PFLAG Scholarship

**Deadline and Terms of Award:**

 The **completed** application must be postmarked by **May 31, 2021** and mailed to:

PFLAG Columbia - Howard County

Attention: Scholarship Committee

P. O. Box 1479, Columbia, Maryland 21044

Forms and supporting documents can be obtained online at <http://www.pflaghoco.org/>. **(INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.)**

 The Scholarship Selection Committee will review all applications and make their final decision in the first two weeks of June. All applicants will receive written communication of the decisions made by the scholarship committee. All decisions will be sent in the mail.

 Identity disclosure will be required as the scholarship recipient(s) will be announced in various press releases and other print or online media.

 Scholarship recipient is responsible for providing PFLAG Columbia - Howard County with a copy of the acceptance letter for the intended post-secondary institution they will be attending. The award will be sent directly to this academic institution and will be sent in $1,000.00 increments (fall and spring semester).

**Application and Supplemental Materials:**

 General application form

 PFLAG Scholarship Questionnaire

 Two sealed letters of recommendation (with at least one from a teacher/professor and one from an individual in the community) **Note: RYA facilitators, PFLAG Steering Committee members, family and friends cannot serve as recommenders.**

 Academic transcripts (unofficial copies)

\*\*All information is confidential and will only be shared with scholarship committee\*\*



**Scholarship Application**

(Please **type** or **print**)

Attach additional sheets, if necessary

**Applicant Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Information:**

High school/college or university presently attending:

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List and explain school clubs or extracurricular activities: ­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Work Information:**

List any previous volunteer or paid positions you have held: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**HOWARD COUNTY PFLAG SCHOLARSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE**

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT YOUR RESPONSES (MINIMUM ONE (1) PARAGRAPH AND MAX 500 WORDS PER QUESTION)**

1. In today’s environment of open racism and bigotry, what can be done to ensure respect and equal treatment for the LGBTQ+ community?

2. Whether or not you are a religious person, do you think it is incumbent upon the LGBTQ+ community to attempt to persuade and help others to realize that homosexuality is innate at birth and is not a choice?

3. What is the most significant issue facing transgender individuals and how should it be addressed?

4. How do you contribute to the LGBTQ+ community and why is this important to you? How do you intend to continue to promote LGBTQ+ equality while attending your college/university and to continue after graduation?

5. Aside from LGBTQ+ causes, what other ways have you demonstrated your commitment to diversity?

By signing the document below I attest to the accuracy of the information provided in this application.

**Signature of Applicant**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDATION FORM COVER SHEET**

\*\*All information is confidential and will only be shared with scholarship committee\*\*

Please **type** or **print** the following information:

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Recommender: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment (if applicable):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Job Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PFLAG Columbia - Howard County Mission Statement:**

To promote the health and well-being of LGBTQ+ persons, their families and friends through:

 **SUPPORT** - to cope with an adverse society

 **EDUCATION** - to enlighten an ill-informed public

 **ADVOCACY** - to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights

We are the extended family of the LGBTQ+ community. PFLAG families, friends and allies work together with those who are LGBTQ+ to provide opportunities for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity. PFLAG acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

Please respond to the following questions as they pertain to the applicant.

 What is your relationship with the applicant and how long have you known them?

 Why do you think the applicant should be considered for the Columbia - Howard County PFLAG Academic Scholarship?

* Describe any knowledge you have regarding the applicant’s commitment and dedication to LGBTQ+ and diversity issues.
* How will this applicant continue to contribute to LGBTQ+ and other diversity issues?
* Provide any additional information regarding the applicant’s community service and academic achievement.

**Please attach this cover sheet to your typed recommendation letter and place them into a sealed envelope with your signature across the back of the envelope.**

Return your recommendation in a **sealed** envelope to the applicant **well before the May 31, 2021 due date of the application packet**. **It is required to be included in the entire application packet to be postmarked by May 31, 2021.**

Thank you for taking the time to help Columbia - Howard County PFLAG offer educational assistance to a qualified student who has an appreciation and commitment to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer plus issues and to the inclusion of equality for individuals.

SCHOLARSHIP CHECKLIST

* General application form
* PFLAG Scholarship Questionnaire
* Two sealed letters of recommendation (with at least one from a teacher/professor and one from an individual in the community) **Note: RYA facilitators, PFLAG Steering Committee members, family and friends cannot serve as recommenders.**
* Academic transcripts (unofficial copies)

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.