

## Program Description & Guidelines

The University Choice Neighborhood Scholarship (UCNS) 2.0 Program is an initiative of the Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant which was awarded to the Atlanta Housing Authority and the City of Atlanta in September 2015 by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This scholarship award is for students in the following categories: **1)** residents of the former University Homes who reside inside the City of Atlanta; **2)** graduating seniors at Washington High School who reside in the designated University Choice Neighborhood (UCN) boundaries that include only the neighborhoods of Ashview Heights, Vine City, and the Atlanta University Center Neighborhood; **3)** graduating seniors who reside in the designated UCN boundaries, but attend high school outside of the UCN area; or **4)** prior 2016 UCN scholarship recipients who reside inside the UCN boundaries. All applicants must be in the process of applying to enter into, or already accepted to an accredited two- or four-year college or university under criteria noted above. Scholarship awards are for students between the ages of 16-24, and can be applied to undergraduate studies only.

The creation of the UCNS fulfills a UCN goal for educational achievement by assisting eligible individuals to achieve postsecondary education goals. Scholarships will be awarded without regard to race, religion, sex, color, national origin, disability or familial status. All candidates for the scholarship must complete the attached application and meet established eligibility criteria. Award amounts will be determined by a selection committee based upon the review of student merit and need. If awarded, funds will be disbursed directly to the educational institution, and can be used for tuition or any school or student-related costs and fees.

## Eligibility Criteria

The applicant must:

- ✓ Meet one of the four (4) categories described in the paragraph above.
- ✓ Have attained a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale at the time of application submission, or a GED.
- ✓ Use scholarship proceeds at an accredited two- or four-year college or university (includes technical / vocational schools). Checks will be made payable to the student's school of choice once evidence of registration is provided. Student identification number, Award Letter and Bursar's address will be required.

In addition:

- ✓ UCNS Scholarship Selection Committee will evaluate the submitted scholarship applications. Awardees will be selected based on completed application, attachments and will be awarded to the students based on merit and need.
- ✓ The UCNS Scholarship Selection Committee reserves the right to conduct an interview with the finalists.
- ✓ Scholarship Eligibility Criteria apply only to scholarships to be awarded in 2017 and are subject to change in future years.
- ✓ The number and amount of scholarship awards will vary based on the number of qualified applicants and the amount of funds available.

## Required Documents:

**Completed Application** – A typed application must be submitted on or before the application deadline of March 3, 2017 at 5:00 pm. **Late submissions will not be accepted. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed by the UCN Scholarship Selection Committee.**

**NOTE:** Electronic submissions (email and/or fax) are **NOT** accepted. **Letters of recommendation as well as original transcripts must be submitted in an unbroken, sealed envelope and be hand-delivered or sent via mail (US Postal Service).**

- Two letters** of recommendation (select from the following):
  1. **On letterhead.** One letter from an academic or civic source:
    - **Academic:** Principal, teacher, counselor, or other school official.
    - **Civic:** Employer, civic leader, pastor, community service official, etc.
  2. One letter from an adult (not a relative / 21 years or older) who can attest to applicant's achievements, qualifications, and aptitude. **Letters from relatives will not be accepted.**
  
- Official High School Transcript** or GED certificate
  
- Two Completed Essays:**
  1. What are your educational/academic goals? What are your future career plans? How do you plan to use your studies to achieve your future career plans? (250 words max)
  2. Please describe your financial need for this scholarship, and how this scholarship will help you to accomplish your career goals. (250 words max)
  
- Letter(s) of Acceptance** from chosen institution(s) if available by application date.

## Additional Documents to be Submitted:

If an applicant is selected in the first review round for further consideration to receive an UCNS 2.0 Program Award, applicant must also submit:

- Verification of unmet financial need from institution's Financial Aid Office.
- Copy of Federal Application Form for Student Aid (FAFSA).

## Restrictions:

UCNS Committee reserves the right to revoke any award for reasons including, but not limited to:

- Candidate does not enroll for Fall 2017 semester classes.
- Candidate is not accepted by an educational institution.
- Application information determined to be late, incomplete or includes false information.

## 2017 University Choice Neighborhood Scholarship Program 2.0



### Submission Information and Additional Questions:

Application with supporting documentation due no later than 5:00pm, Friday March 3, 2017:

Gwendolyn Weddington  
Senior Manager, UCN Community Engagement  
227 Roach Street SW  
Atlanta, GA 30314  
[gwen.weddington@atantahousing.org](mailto:gwen.weddington@atantahousing.org)  
(404) 685-4376





### Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Female \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street Apt. #

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Education

\_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ GED \_\_\_\_\_ Undergrad

### Eligibility

Please indicate if you live in one of the following neighborhoods:

Ashview Heights \_\_\_\_\_ Vine City \_\_\_\_\_ Atlanta University Center Neighborhood \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Resident of the former University Homes who resides inside the City of Atlanta

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduating senior at Washington High School who resides in one of the UCN neighborhoods listed above

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduating senior who resides in one of the UCN neighborhoods listed above, but attends high school outside of the UCN area

\_\_\_\_\_ Prior 2016 UCN scholarship recipient who reside inside one of the UCN neighborhoods listed above

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

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

High School Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

College Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_





**If High School Applicant, list Colleges and/or Universities to which you have applied and /or been accepted**

College or University w/ City and State	Acceptance Date (if received)
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

**Activities, Awards & Honors**

Please list all school activities in which you have participated during the past four years (e.g., student government music, sports, etc.), and note all special awards, recognitions, honors and offices held.

High School/College Activities	# of Years	Honors, Special Awards or Recognition	Offices Held
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			





**Community Involvement**

Please list community service organizations, volunteer organizations or special projects you are now active with or have previously been active with during the past four years, including employment and internships, etc.

Organization	# of Years	Service, Volunteer Organizations, Special Projects, Employment, Internships, etc.	Offices/Positions Held
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

**Disclosure**

By signing this disclosure, I understand that I am granting AHA permission to disclose and discuss the contents of this application with UCN staff and the UCNS Scholarship Selection Committee or third parties such as schools, colleges, universities, and references for the purposes of evaluating my application and eligibility for the UCNS scholarship.

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that could otherwise jeopardize consideration of this application.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(If under the age of 18)

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This application form consists of **five (5)** pages including the essays. If you are missing any page(s) please contact the Community Engagement Team at (404) 685-4376.



# 2017 University Choice Neighborhood Scholarship Program 2.0



**Essay #1:** What are your educational/academic goals? What are your future career plans? How do you plan to use your studies to achieve your future career plans? (250 words max)



# 2017 University Choice Neighborhood Scholarship Program 2.0



**Essay #2:** Please describe your financial need for this scholarship, and how this scholarship will help you to accomplish your career goals. (250 words max)

