

MISSION STATEMENT

The Maryland School Psychologist's Association, (MSPA), became aware of the need of a more aggressive approach in relieving some of the financial pressures that are faced by our minority students pursuing school psychology training in the state of Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Consequently, MSPA is established the Multicultural Affairs Committee, now the Diversity Committee, as a means toward addressing this concern. The Diversity Committee established a corporation, the School Psychologist Advancement of Minorities, Inc., (SPAM), to help in this process. SPAM has in turn established a scholarship program to provide financial support to minority students in school psychology training programs in Maryland and the District of Columbia. The term Minority is defined as any person who is a member of a recognized racial minority group in the United States. These awards were developed in response to our professional commitment to encourage promising graduate minority students to enter the profession of school psychology in the state of Maryland.

INFORMATION and APPLICATION

Eligibility

- A full time, or a part-time M.A./A.G.S. minority student enrolled in a recognized school psychology program in Maryland of the District of Columbia.
- Since the intent of this scholarship is to encourage entry into and the completion of a school psychology program, individuals who are certified as a School Psychologist as defined by the Maryland State Department of Education are excluded from consideration.
- In order to continue receiving this scholarship once awarded, the scholarship recipient must be in good academic standing.

Scholarship Selection Criteria

The successful applicant needs to complete all of the required application documents, which will be reviewed by SPAM's Board of Directors, and the following will be considered in the selection process:

- A copy of the most current transcript from graduate school;
- GPA (undergraduate coursework for first year students; graduate coursework for continuing students enrolled in a school psychology program);
- Statement of Professional Goals;
- Financial Statement;
- Two letters of Recommendation
- Evidence of a commitment to pursue a career in school psychology in the state of Maryland;
- Evidence of a commitment to human services, or work in the community
- Other Personal Accomplishments

Scholarship Notification

The recipients of this trust will be announced by the beginning of the fall semester in writing. Scholarships in the amount of \$4,000 will be presented in payments of \$2,000 each semester upon receipt of verification of full-time or part-time enrollment for the fall and spring semesters. In addition, each recipient's student membership dues to MSPA and to the National Association of School Psychologists will be funded as long as they are a scholarship recipient.

Application Deadline

Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted to the SPAM's Board and postmarked no later than **March 1st**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

A complete application must include the following, and will not be considered until all necessary documents are received:

1. The most recent copy of their graduate school transcript.
2. A resume including undergraduate and/or graduate schools; awards and honors; student and professional activities; work and volunteer experiences; research and publications, workshops or other presentation; and any special skills, training or experience that the applicant will be able to bring to the practice of school psychology including, but not limited to, bilingualism, teaching experience and mental health experience.
3. A statement of Professional Goals, not to exceed two single-spaced typewritten pages, (approximately one thousand words).
4. At least two letters of recommendation. First year students should obtain letters attesting to the applicant's professional qualities, and if possible, at least one from a faculty member from their undergraduate or graduate studies. Second and third year students must have at least one letter from a faculty member of their school psychology program.
5. Completion of the Certification of Program Acceptance by your advisory
6. Completion of the Financial Statement.
7. Completion of Application.

Please send the entire application and all other correspondence to the following address:

SPAM Inc.
5001 Hillen Road
Baltimore, MD 21239-3601
410-444-6335
rsatchell@verizon.net

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Name: _____

Please submit a copy of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

List all other scholarships already received or anticipated, (include grants, fellowships and parental contributions).

If you so desire, you may include a brief statement about any circumstance that you feel create a special need that this committee should consider.

Name of Employer: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Work address: _____

Work Phone number: () _____

VERIFICATION OF APPLICATION

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the conditions of this application; the information contained and included within is true, complete and correct; and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I am eligible to receive this scholarship as defined by the School Psychologists Advancement of Minorities, Inc.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION of PROGRAM ACCEPTANCE

I, _____, hereby certify that
(Print or type the name of Advisor)

_____ has been accepted, or is currently
(Applicant's name)

enrolled in the _____
(print or type in name of college or university)

school psychology program.

Advisor's Signature: _____

Date: _____

RECOMMENDATION FORM

To the recipient of this form:

Yearly scholarships of \$4,000 (in two \$2,000 increments) are given to a worthy minority student in a school psychology program in the state of Maryland or the District of Columbia through the School Psychologists Advancement of Minorities (SPAM). The student whose name appears at the bottom is applying for this scholarship. As a requirement for this scholarship a letter of recommendation is being requested. Please respond to the questions that follow as fully as you can on a separate sheet (s) of paper. If, in addition to your responses to these questions, you wish to write a letter to further support this candidate's application, please feel free to do so.

1. How long have you know the applicant and in what capacity?
2. What are the applicant's strength and special talents?
3. One of the criteria that this applicant must meet is interest in pursuing and/or continuing to pursue a degree and a career in school psychology. Please give your assessment of the applicant's interest in this area.
4. Interpersonal skills are important when dealing with schools, outside agencies, parents and so on. Please give your assessment of the applicant's interpersonal skills.
5. Another criterion recipients must meet is commitment in pursuing a career in school psychology in the state of Maryland or the District of Columbia. Please provide your assessment of the applicant's commitment.

Please send all correspondence to the following address, postmarked no later than **March 1st**.

**SPAM, Inc.
5001 Hillen Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21239-3601**

I, _____ hereby authorize the recipient of this
(print the applicant's name)

form to release any and all information requested for in this form to SPAM, Inc. I also waive my right of access to this Letter of Recommendation.

applicant's signature

Date