

**1. When is the application due?**

The application and letters of recommendation are due by April 1st.

**2. Do I have to be a high school senior?**

Yes, to be eligible for the Phillip Dorsey Scholarship, an applicant must:

- Be a graduating, high school senior
- Plan to attend an accredited and approved four-year institution within the United States
- Show leadership potential
- Demonstrate a dedication to community service
- Present evidence of financial need
- Be a United States citizen

**3. Can I apply even if I haven't been accepted to a college yet?**

Yes, you may apply for our scholarship if you haven't been accepted to a college yet. However, the awarding of the scholarship will require verification of college admission and enrollment.

**4. How do you define "financial need"?**

Up Rising Stars Inc. understands that there is a wide array of financial need. We will look at each application on a case by case basis via the entire scholarship applications. Please do not provide any personal financial information (W2 forms, paystubs, etc.)

**5. How do you define community service and civic engagement?**

Up Rising Stars Inc. wants to financially assist the new generation of leaders and innovators. We are looking for students that address community needs, whether it is starting a school organization, reading to local students, volunteering in the food pantry, or building houses for the needy, Phillip Dorsey Scholarship recipients are rising stars.

**6. Where do I send my application?**

The application and the letters of recommendation should be sent by mail to Up Rising Stars Inc. P.O. Box 2403, Elizabeth, NJ 07207.

**7. Can I download the application, complete, and send in a hard copy?**

Yes, hard copy applications are only accepted.

### **8. Who should complete the letters of recommendation?**

Your two professional letters of recommendation should be submitted by someone who can provide information about your character, academic accomplishments, community service involvement and extracurricular activities. Possible recommenders to consider, but are not limited to, are: **a guidance counselor, teacher, athletic coach, mentor, or employer.**

### **9. Is it necessary for me to send my official College Board or ACT test scores and Transcript?**

Yes, it is necessary for you to send your official College Board or ACT test scores and official transcript with your application or request for the College Board or ACT to send your scores to Up Rising Stars Inc. We are aware that seniors will not have the entire official 12 grade completed as they are still in high school but they are to send the official transcript up until the current term they are in school.

### **10. Do you grant extensions for late applications?**

No, we are unable to grant extensions for late applications.

### **11. Is there someone I can contact if I need help completing the application?**

For questions regarding the requirements and content of this scholarship application contact: Up Rising Stars Inc. by email: [uprisingstarsinc@gmail.com](mailto:uprisingstarsinc@gmail.com)

### **12. When will I find out if I received the scholarship award?**

Semi-finalists will be selected first. These Semi-finalists are required to have a phone interview with the founders of Up Rising Stars Inc. and we will contact the selected student's directly. After the phone interviews, only the final chosen recipients will be notified by July 1.

### **13. How many awards do you typically give out?**

The number of scholarships awards distributed varies each year depending on the sponsorships and donations received.

### **14. If I am awarded the scholarship, do I receive financial support the four years that I am in college and meet the requirements?**

No, unfortunately The Phillip Dorsey Scholarship is only disbursed for the first semester of the student's freshman year.

### **15. What is the Annual Scholarship Awards Gala?**

Selected recipients of The Phillip Dorsey Scholarship must attend The Annual Scholarship Awards Gala. The Gala is a celebration acknowledging the scholarship recipient's academic accomplishments as well as give the founders and guests of Up Rising Stars Inc. an opportunity to meet the chosen scholars. Recipients will be notified of the date of the Gala when selected.