



## **Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship Program**

Virginia Housing and Community Development Corporation

**Application Deadline:** January 9, 2017

# MBE Empowerment Fund™

## Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship Program

### APPLICATION

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The Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship program offers non-renewable, merit-based scholarships for emerging entrepreneurs with demonstrated entrepreneurial talents or accomplishments. The program was established to encourage, support and promote entrepreneurship in the Commonwealth of Virginia while raising awareness of the critical role that private enterprise and entrepreneurship play in building and supporting our communities.

The Fund seeks to assist eligible Applicants who meet the following criteria.

- A. APPLICANT must be at least 17 years old at the time of application;
- B. APPLICANT must be a U.S. citizen and permanent resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia;
- C. APPLICANT must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, based on a 4.0/5.0 maximum scale, at the time of the Application; and,
- D. APPLICANT must submit a complete Application.

The MBE Empowerment Fund™ is a service of **Virginia Housing and Community Development Corporation** (VHCDC). VHCDC is working to promote and support entrepreneurship, to advance entrepreneurship education and training, to promote entrepreneurship-friendly policies, to connect disadvantaged small businesses to capital and credit, and to facilitate the commercialization of new technologies and services by small, women, and minority-owned businesses which have great promise for improving the economic welfare of our region.

To apply, Applicants should submit an application, along with a letter of inquiry describing their entrepreneurial experience, goals and objectives to the address provided. No phone calls, texts, or emails please. Finalists will be contacted by VHCDC on behalf of the MBE Empowerment Fund.

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**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**  
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Funding for the MBE Empowerment Fund™ is made possible by individual and corporate contributions. VHCDC intends to award several scholarships in 2017 of \$500 or more on behalf of individuals we believe best demonstrate the drive, determination, and vision to succeed as an entrepreneur/small business owner. Scholarships will be awarded beginning February 1, 2017 until available funds are exhausted. You may support the Fund by making your tax-deductible contribution at [www.mbeempowermentfund.org](http://www.mbeempowermentfund.org).

**Send Donations to:** MBE Empowerment Fund™ - 445 N. Main St., #1574 - Suffolk, VA 23439

# Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship Program

## Application Form



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### SECTION A: APPLICANT'S INFORMATION

1. Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Legal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Name of High School:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Date of Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Anticipated/Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Cumulative G.P.A. \_\_\_\_\_ based on a \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. 4.0/5.0) maximum scale.

9. Name of College, University, or Sponsored Program Agency:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Major/Degree/Program: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Date of Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Cumulative G.P.A. \_\_\_\_\_ based on a \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. 4.0/5.0) maximum scale.

### SECTION B: PARENT/GUARDIAN (If under 18)

1. Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### SECTION C: CHECKLIST AND AUTHORIZATIONS

#### THE FOLLOWING MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION:

1. Students must provide an **official** copy of your high school or college **transcripts** (must show your overall grade point average).

2. A **Letter of Inquiry** describing your entrepreneurial experience(s), goals, and objectives (No more than two, single spaced pages. Must contain 500 words or more). Your letter must address the following questions:

1. What motivates you to own your own business?
2. Describe the business you want to own?
3. What product or service are you planning to sell?
4. What current past or current experiences have prepared you for this venture?
5. How would you finance your business?

3. Two **Letters of Recommendation**;

- One letter must be from a secondary or post-secondary faculty member having personal knowledge of the Applicant's achievements and potential.

- One letter must be from a current business owner (company letterhead), member of the clergy, local housing authority official, workforce development agency, city/county Department of Economic Development, a Virginia Business Incubator, a Virginia Small Business Development Center, the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, or the U.S. Small Business Administration.

4. Copy of your **I.D.** (must contain your photo and address); and,

5. **Letter of Acceptance/Proof of Enrollment** in an accredited program of Business Administration, Business Management, or Business with a concentration in Entrepreneurship at a Virginia college or university. Proof of registration in a VHDCD sponsored program.

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING \*\*\*\***

By signing this application, you authorize Virginia Housing and Community Development Corporation and the MBE Empowerment Fund™ Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship program committee to investigate and confirm the information contained in your application. You, and your parent/guardian (if applicable), certify that all of the statements provided are true and correct and understand that any false, incorrect, or misleading statement(s) will immediately disqualify this application. I understand this Application must be received by the deadline to be considered for an award.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If Applicant has not yet reached the age of 18)

**Mail to:**  
**MBE Empowerment Fund**  
Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship Program  
445 N. Main Street, #1574 - Suffolk, Virginia 23439

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**PLEASE NOTE: Directors, Officers, and Employees of Virginia Housing and Community Development Corporation, including its contractors and their immediate families are not eligible to participate in the MBE Empowerment Fund™ Emerging Entrepreneurs Scholarship Program.**