



**THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
Connectional Handy Simmons Scholarship Commission



Bishop John F. White, Commission Chair

Dr. Shirley Cason Reed, International President

**Ms. Ka'Dijah Brown, Second Vice President
Mission Education and Interpretation Chair**

Carol Ann Thomas, Connectional Scholarship Commissioner



MRS. MARY F. HANDY.



MRS. S. G. SIMMONS
President W. M. & F. M. Society

MARCH 2019

TO: Episcopal District Supervisors, Episcopal District Presidents
Episcopal District Commissioners

FROM: Dr. Shirley Cason Reed
Ms. Ka'Dijah Brown
Carol Ann Thomas

DATE: March 18, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019 Handy Simmons Scholarship Application

Our International President, Dr. Shirley Cason Reed and the Handy Simmons Scholarship Commission is pleased to offer the Handy Simmons Scholarship/Book Awards for 2019. It is our desire to assist our deserving youth with assistance in what we hope will change the trajectory of their lives.

Enclosed is a copy of the 2019 application and submission guidelines. The due dates for submitting the applications to the respective levels are also included.

Please direct questions to Carol Ann Thomas at dpm6@comcast.net. Reference **SCHOLARSHIP** on the subject line. This memorandum is for distribution **ONLY** to the persons addressed at the top of this page.

Episcopal District Commissioners are requested to review the entire package prior to distribution in an effort to address questions adequately.

Dr. Reed and our commission extend gratitude for your attention to the needs of our youth.



WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Connectional Handy Simmons Scholarship Commission

2019 HANDY SIMMONS SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Eligibility:

1. Active members of the AME Church and the Young Peoples Department
2. Current Freshmen, Sophomores or Juniors who are presently pursuing a bachelor's degree
3. Current first year college students pursuing an associate or technical degree

Application Requirements:

1. Completed application
2. Two letters of recommendation, on official letterhead, from the following:
 - a) Local Church Pastor
 - b) Local Missionary President
3. **Official transcript with GPA of 3.0 or above**
4. A competitive essay written in accordance with the current connectional theme provided
Essay will be 500-1000 words. Type the word count at end of the document. Use size 12 font

Criteria for Selection:

1. Performance such as activities, awards and/or accomplishments
2. Quality and level of church participation (local, area, conference, district or connectional)
3. Leadership and extracurricular activities
4. Reference letters

Applicants must submit **all** requested documents to the Conference Handy Simmons Scholarship Commissioner or Conference Branch President. **Applications must be accurate and completed according to the directions in order to be considered.** Essay must be typewritten, error free and written according to the current theme. **No application will be considered if it is: 1) incomplete 2) missing references or signatures 3) containing incorrect essay theme 4) missing current college transcript (original) 5) submitted after the deadline. Final evaluation will be made using the criteria listed here.**

**THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Connectional Handy Simmons Scholarship Commission**

2019 HANDY SIMMONS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ M _____ F _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____ Email _____

PARENTS / GUARDIAN NAME

Mother _____

Father _____

Guardian _____

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Name of Church _____

Address _____

Pastor _____

Conference Name _____ Episcopal District _____

CHURCH PARTICAPTION

List church activities you are involved with on the local, conference, district and/or connectional level.
Provide a brief description of each activity including the length of your involvement.

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Name and address of the College or University where you are currently enrolled.

Name of College _____

Address _____

_____ Full Time Part Time _____ Current Year in Studies _____ Graduation Date _____

_____ Major _____ Minor _____ Undeclared

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Dean's List _____ Yes _____ Year

LEADERSHIP AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Be certain that you have completed the entire application and attached all requested documents. Submit documents to your Conference Branch Handy Simmons Commissioner or WMS Conference President, if there is no Commissioner.

All signatures must be provided for the application to be processed

REQUIRED SIGNATURES:

Applicant Date

Local Missionary President/YPD Director Date

Conference Handy Simmons Scholarship Commissioner Date

Episcopal District Handy Simmons Commissioner Date

Episcopal District Supervisor Date

**HANDY SIMMONS SCHOLARSHIP
Essay Theme and Evaluation Criteria**

**2019 ESSAY THEME
PROFIT VS. PEOPLE
(Theme title cannot be altered)**

If you were offered a position where you could earn a higher salary, however, it could harm others. An example is if your supervisor requested you to perform a task that may be contrary to company policy. How would you handle the situation? You have choices and options. This situation requires critical thinking.

Write a 500-1000-word essay with the word count at the end of the essay. Include within this essay your belief of what community service means to you. Your essay must be clear and specific. The use of multiple resources is encouraged, including books, articles and the internet. It is important to provide a reference for each resource. Use of the citation format you are familiar with, such as APA style, is permitted.

CONTENT:

1. The typed essay is a minimum of 500 words not to exceed 1000 words
2. The topic is clearly addressed
3. Ideas are developed and support the topic
4. Writing demonstrates a sense of completeness

GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURE:

1. Free of run-on sentences and sentence fragments
2. Correct subject/verb agreement
3. Correct use of singular and plural noun forms
4. Correct/appropriate use of punctuation
5. Appropriate/correct word choices
6. Free of spelling errors

ORGANIZATION

1. Ideas flow and fit together
2. Details are in logical order
3. Writing has a clear beginning, middle and end
4. Ideas are presented in varied and innovative use of words, phrases, and sentences

APPLICATION DUE DATES and SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Applications are due to the Conference Branch Commissioner or the Conference YPD Director, where appropriate, by **April 29, 2019**. The Conference Commissioner will ensure the application packets are complete and will submit them to the Episcopal District Commissioner by **May 24, 2019**. **Do not forward incomplete applications.**
2. The Episcopal District Commissioner will evaluate and rank the applicants on the appropriate form. Upon completion, the Episcopal District Commissioner will submit completed **eligible** applications to the Episcopal District Supervisor for signature.
3. The Connectional Commissioner must receive all completed **eligible** applications by **August 23, 2019**. The Connectional Evaluation Committee will review the applications. The Connectional Commissioner will submit the report of the award recommendations to the Connectional President for awards distribution.



*Apply your heart to instruction and
your ear to words of knowledge*

