



## 2023 CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Oakland Bay Area Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, is a national volunteer service organization of concerned and committed women, primarily of African ancestry who work to enhance the quality of life in our larger communities. The organization strives to contribute to the formulation of a positive, productive, and culturally diverse community, through our focus on education, cultural enrichment, health and wellness, and civic involvement. We especially encourage students who self-identify as Black or African American to apply.

### The eligibility requirements:

- High school senior, graduating in May/June 2023
- A minimum cumulative (not weighted) GPA of 3.4
- Demonstrated active participation in school
- Demonstrated active participation in community service
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Evidence of commitment to attend and graduate from a four-year college or university
- Applications from relatives of members of The Links, Incorporated will not be considered.

### Scholarship Application Instructions:

~All scholarship application materials must be received by **11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.**

~We encourage you to apply early.

~The Celebration of Excellence Scholarship Committee will not consider any additional materials other than those requested.

~Scholarship applications are considered complete when each of the following items has been submitted:

- 1) **ONLINE APPLICATION:** The scholarship application (including applicant's signature and parent's signature) must be completed and submitted online to the Celebration of Excellence website (<https://oaklandbayarealinks.org/the-celebration-of-excellence/>). Mailed or emailed applications will not be considered.
- 2) **TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (SUBMIT ONLINE ONLY):** Two (2) letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, school administrators, community leaders, and/or clergy must be uploaded online to the Celebration of Excellence website (<https://oaklandbayarealinks.org/the-celebration-of-excellence/>) by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. All recommendations must include the student's first and last name and must be printed on official letterhead.
- 3) **OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT (SUBMIT ONLINE ONLY):** Your most recent official high school transcript is required to be uploaded online to the Celebration of Excellence website (<https://oaklandbayarealinks.org/the-celebration-of-excellence/>) by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. A minimum cumulative (not weighted) GPA of 3.4 is required for consideration.
- 4) **EMAIL THE OAKLAND BAY AREA CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED:** Once you have submitted the completed application online, please send an email to [oaklandbayarealinkscoe@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandbayarealinkscoe@gmail.com) with your first name, last name, and school in the subject field from the student applicant's email address. This email will be used to communicate any missing materials or problems with the application.

### Important Dates to Remember:

- **Wednesday, March 1, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. ~ Application Deadline**  
Completed applications with all required documents must be submitted in their entirety by the application deadline.
- **The afternoon of Sunday, April 23, 2023 ~ Celebration of Excellence Ceremony**  
All awardees ***must attend*** this event, which we anticipate will be virtual. If the student awardee cannot attend, then a family member ***must attend*** or ***the scholarship award will be forfeited.***

Direct inquiries to: [oaklandbayarealinkscoe@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandbayarealinkscoe@gmail.com)

*Thank you for your interest and we wish you the best!*  
**The Celebration of Excellence Scholarship Committee**  
**Oakland Bay Area Chapter of The Links, Incorporated**