

Written by
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ationwide (BlackNews.com) -- Every year, the Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) Program selects 1,000 talented students to receive a good-through-graduation scholarship to use at any college or university of their choice. The program provides scholars with personal and professional development through our leadership programs along with academic support throughout their college career.

Administered by the United Negro College Fund, the program was initially funded by a \$1 billion grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Since 1999, it has funded the education of more than 16,000 students, awarding them more than \$614 million dollars to pay for tuition, fees, books and housing.

The program aims to reduce financial barriers for African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American and Hispanic American students with high academic and leadership promise who have significant financial need; increase the representation of these target groups in the disciplines of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health and the sciences, where these groups are severely underrepresented; develop a diversified cadre of future leaders for America by facilitating successful completion of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees; and provide seamless

2013 Bill Gates Scholars Program: Applications now available for 2013 scholarships

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support from undergraduate through doctoral programs, for students selected as Gates Millennium Scholars entering target disciplines

Individuals selected as Gates Scholars will receive funds in an amount to be determined based on their financial need. The amount determined will be based on the cost of tuition, fees, books and living expenses for the 2013-2014 academic year, as well as the availability of grants and other scholarships reported on the financial aid award letter. The average scholarship award in the 2000-2010 academic years was \$11,000 per student.

The application process is a three-part effort: 1) a Student Application is completed and submitted by the student; 2) a Nominator Form must be completed and submitted by an educator- Principal, teacher, guidance counselor or higher education representative; 3) a Recommender Form must be completed and submitted by any adult who is familiar with the student's community service and leadership activities, such as a supervisor at work or a community leader.

The deadline for submission is January 16, 2013.

To apply for the 2013 Gates Millennium Scholars program, visit:

www.scholarshipsonline.org/2012/08/the-gates-millennium-scholars-program.html

To find hundreds of other scholarship opportunities, visit:

www.ScholarshipsOnline.org