



**Hampton Roads Black Media Professionals College Scholarship Application**

Hampton Roads Black Media Professionals (HRBMP) is a nonprofit organization of communicators dedicated to inspiring African-American students to pursue college and media-related careers. HRBMP will award scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 to undergraduates and graduate students in journalism or media-related studies. Applicants should be attending school in Hampton Roads and/or in the viewing/circulation area of Hampton Roads TV news broadcasts and Hampton Roads-area newspapers. Students from Hampton Roads attending colleges anywhere in Virginia and previous HRBMP scholarship winners are also eligible to apply. Winners will be notified in May.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Postmarked by April 30, 2016

**Mail Application to:** HRBMP, 5540 Bulls Bay Drive, Virginia Beach, VA. 23462.

Please contact Larry Rubama at [larry.rubama@pilotonline.com](mailto:larry.rubama@pilotonline.com) with any questions.

**APPLICANT GENERAL INFORMATION:** *Please print or type*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Alt Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the HRBMP scholarship program? \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICANT ACADEMIC INFORMATION:**

College: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall grade point average/grade point average in major: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION:**

**All of the information that I have provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand and acknowledge that providing false or misleading information may lead to the rescinding of any award. I authorize Hampton Roads Black Media Professionals to verify any of the information contained herein. I further grant permission to use my name, likeness and essays to promote and advance the scholarship program and HRBMP. I confirm that I will continue as a journalism or media related major for the 2016-2017 academic year and am eligible to receive this scholarship.**

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Applicant Signature and Date (required):

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Parent/Guardian's Signature and Date (if applicant is under 18 years of age):

**CRITERIA**

Scholarship Amount: \$500 to \$1,000

1. GPA requirement: minimum 3.0 required in your major/ minimum 2.5 GPA overall
2. Provide an official college transcript
3. Two letters of recommendation. One should be from the student's former or current media-related instructor. A second letter may come from but is not limited to: an internship supervisor, counselor, other college instructor, newspaper advisor/broadcast advisor, etc.
4. Student should list extracurricular activities performed, or jobs held during college. Please list dates of activities.
5. Student must write an essay between 500 to 1,200 words on one of the following five topics:
  - a. What is your perspective on the media coverage of current presidential candidates?
  - b. Is it ethical for journalists to report on controversial situations or issues that have impacted their lives personally and to insert their personal opinions into the news coverage about those situations or issues? Why or why not? If you have examples, please provide them. This question pertains to news reporters, not opinion columnists.
  - c. Cell phone recordings and social media have turned everyday citizens into "journalists," giving them a platform (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) to report on crime, community events, and other issues of interest. Has the influx of social media made the reporting of the traditional media (print and broadcast) stronger or weaker? Give examples to support your position.
  - d. How can the subject of journalism and/or other media-related studies be improved at the high school and college levels? Provide examples of how you would improve the teaching of these studies, and explain why you believe these improvements would help the next crop of aspiring journalists and communicators.

- e. If you were a Public Relations advisor, what advice, counsel or strategy would you propose to the “Black Lives Matter” organization?
6. Student must submit a second essay. Student must write an essay between 500 to 1,200 words on one of the following two topics:
  - a. The reason you are committed to pursuing a journalism or media-related career and what you hope to achieve as a journalist or media-related professional. Feel free to include a current, former or historical journalist or media-related professional who inspires you in your essay.
  - b. What is your perspective on the need for organizations such as Hampton Roads Black Media Professionals, Inc. and the National Association of Black Journalists, Inc.?
7. Students may provide a sampling of their work.