



## THE BLACKBERRY VINE FIRST-IN-FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The BlackBerry Vine First-in-Family (BVFF) Scholarship is an undergraduate scholarship program available to high school seniors who will be the first in their family to attend college. Applicants must seek to attend and graduate from a Historically Black College/University (HBCU). Students will be selected from a pool of applicants from Starkville High School.

The BVFF Scholarship is open to graduating high school seniors with a minimum 2.75 GPA. The recipient will be awarded \$1,000 for the 2019-2020 academic school year, which will be used to assist with the costs of tuition and fees, on-campus room and board and required textbooks purchased from member-schools. The funds will be applied during the fall semester of 2019.

A first generation college student is defined as a student whose parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and siblings do not have a college degree. This means that you are the first in your family to attend a college/university and attain a bachelor's degree.

### SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Be a first-generation college student
- Be a US citizen of African descent
- Be a graduating high-school senior
- Be accepted to and prepared to attend a Historically Black College/University
- Have a grade point average of 2.75 or higher in high school
- Be recommended by a high school counselor
- Have demonstrated financial need through the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Have demonstrated leadership ability through a variety of measures (athletics, student, community or church organizations)

### Checklist

The BlackBerry Vine First-in-Family Scholarship provides funding to African American students who plan to attend a Historically Black College/University (HBCU). This scholarship is available to high school seniors who will be a part of the 2019 graduating class. To ease your application process, we have established the following pre-application. Please answer each question in the check boxes below.

- Yes  No Are you currently classified as a high school senior?
- Yes  No Do you have a 2.75 grade point average or better?
- Yes  No After graduation, do you plan to attend a HBCU?
- Yes  No Are you Black or African American?
- Yes  No Do you have tuition (or tuition related) expenses not covered by scholarships/grants (excluding loans)?

***If you responded "No" to any of the questions listed above, then you are not eligible for this scholarship. If you responded "Yes" to all of the questions, you meet the criteria to be considered.***

### REQUESTED APPLICATION MATERIALS

- Resume (include community service, leadership and employment/internship experience)
- 2019-2020 Student Aid Report (received from filing FAFSA)
- Current high school transcript (unofficial or official, GPA must show on transcript)
- Recommendation letter from current high school counselor and/or a faculty member
- Essay: In a minimum of 1000 words, please address the following questions:

***What does it mean to be the first person in your family to receive a college degree?***

***What impact would this scholarship have on your education?***

**BLACKBERRY VINE, LLC.**  
6055 SELF CREEK ROAD  
STARKVILLE, MS 39759

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## THE BLACKBERRY VINE FIRST-IN-FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Award	Application Deadline	Forms Required	Response By
\$1,000	March 31, 2019	Application	April 30, 2019

### TO APPLY

Step 1: Complete the Blackberry Vine First-in-Family Scholarship application.  
(Applications may also be obtained on our web site [www.blackberryvine.co](http://www.blackberryvine.co))

Step 2: Provide a current official high school or college transcript. GPA must be 2.75 or higher.

Step 3: Provide two current letters of recommendation from counselors, teachers, employers or mentors.  
Letters must be written within 6 months of application date.

Step 4: Submit the complete package (**only complete packages will be accepted**)  
To the following postal address postmarked on or before March 31, 2017:

**Blackberry Vine, LLC.  
ATTN: The Blackberry Vine First-in-Family Scholarship  
6055 Self Creek Road  
Starkville, MS 39759**

Or email to the following address on or before March 31, 2019:  
**[thevine@blackberryvine.co](mailto:thevine@blackberryvine.co)**

Recipient of the scholarship will be notified by April 30, 2019. If you are not contacted by the date indicated, you were not awarded The Blackberry Vine First-in-Family Scholarship.

Thank you for your interest.

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