Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is an international sisterhood of college-educated women which places high significance on scholarship and service to the community. Established in 1913, the sorority has a very long history of working for the benefit of the African American community and, by extension, the entire nation.

The Wilmington Alumnae Chapter has carried on the work and intentions of the sisterhood since its founding in 1940. Over the years, the chapter has awarded numerous scholarships, often changing the theme or focus to reflect the changing emphasis in research and learning.

This year, we seek to award scholarships to candidates who are performing well academically AND who demonstrate good character and leadership in their lives. The scholarships are for students who intend to begin college in the fall of 2022.

We will award scholarships to the students who have demonstrated leadership, service to community, creativityand focus on long-term goals. We will count these values more highly than academics. We will also give added weight to applications from applicants with mathematics or science backgrounds. The scholarship will be based upon the following weighted criteria, in order of the greaterweight to the lesser weight:

* leadership
* creativity, mission mindedness, or service
* academic performance
* heart for learning (taking advantage of opportunities to learn)
* activities and interests.

As for the submission itself, we are also looking at its overall presentation. In this regard, we review and evaluate:

* spelling and grammar
* vigor of expression and passion for the topic, and
* neatness

**Scholarship Eligibility**

The applicant must be a graduating senior in a public, parochial, or private secondary school who plans to enroll in an accredited institution of higher education in the fall of the current year, meeting all entrance requirements of the selected school.

 The applicant must be a citizen of the United States (proof of citizenship may be required).

 All applicants applying for an academic or leadership scholarship must have at least a 3.0 high school Grade Point Average or on a 4.0-point scale.

**Application Process**

* A completed scholarship application, inclusive of all attachments and must be mailed to or submitted May (postmarked date). Include in your packet a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Wilmington (NC) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated

401 North Seventh Street

Wilmington, NC 28401

* The application must be completed in its entirety and all necessary materials submitted with an official transcript showing ACT/SAT scores and GPA. DO NOT SEND A RESUME OR A CD.
* The Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of NC Scholarship Chair will verify receipt of application and requested attachments to each applicant via email as soon as packet is received. Winners of the scholarship will be announced by June 1, 2022, using the provided self-addressed stamped envelope. Please include your self-addressed stamped envelope.

**Method of Scholarship Distribution**

Payment will be made to the recipient’s school after confirmation of active enrollment in classes. Funds must be used for tuition, fees, room board, books, and supplies. If, the scholarship funds are not needed for any of the aforementioned items after the primary scholarship has been awarded, the funds will be distributed to the next eligible applicant based on the evaluation criteria of the applicant. The decision of the judges and scholarship committee will be announced by May 25, 2022, to the chapter president and executive committee, scholarship chair, and respective committee members of the application year. The awarded scholarships become official when the recipients are enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education and verification of the same is forwarded to the current chapter president. The recipient must apply for and use his/her scholarship **within one year** after it has been awarded. The scholarship will become void after that period.

**We evaluate your submission fully in all these areas.**

1. **Criteria:** We will evaluate your scholarship submission based on one set of the criteria noted above, and the specific inputs you offer as described below. Therefore, you must indicate in your application which scholarship criteria you are seeking to meet. Then, complete the Scholarship Application, which will include the following points. (NOTE: The following are NOT listed in order of importance or weight for evaluation.)

a**. Academic Achievement/Performance**: Submit your standardized test scores from the SAT, ACT, or other standardized test or other measures of your academic performance. We are particularly interested in your overall academic performance however best measured. The latest official high school transcript is required. The transcript must have an official school seal and in a sealed envelope. No exceptions.

b. **Contribution:**

(1) Submit a list of your Extracurricular Activities. We are not looking for the number of activities, but the variety, balance, depth, and overall significance of these activities.

(2) Submit three (3) reference letters, with at MOST 2 pages, single-spaced, 12-point type (may be less, such as double-spaced, etc.) from parents (who better know homeschool students), ministers, leaders in programs you’ve been involved in [Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, school clubs], etc. that confirm your involvement in the activities you’ve listed and that, to the extent possible, attest to your unique contributions in these areas. These letters should further attest to your creativeness, mission mindedness, or service.

**NOTES:**

Reference letters should attest to specific contributions you have made, specific activities you have engaged in, specific achievements that have benefited—or that show some promise in the future of benefiting the community. In other words, these letters are primarily for the sake of acquiring outside confirmation that you have really done or achieved what you claim to have done or achieved in your scholarship application. We only need one letter attesting to your contributions in any one activity. In other words, for example, if you’re going to send us letters from two officials in your church, make sure they speak about different aspects of your participation. The best letter will describe specific contributions you have made and/or specific observations that your referee has seen that demonstrate the contributions to which s/he is referring.

Submit a response to the essay question with at MOST 2 pages, single-spaced, 12-point type (may be less, such as double-spaced, etc.)

**Essay Question: The Civil Rights Act of 1964 made it illegal to discriminate against students and college applicants based on race or gender but proving bias in college admissions is quite difficult. Do you agree or disagree with affirmative action policies to ensure greater diversity? State your claim and evidence to defend your position.**

1. Essay: If your essay question response is considered for valuable points, we expect it will

include at least REFERENCES to matters like:

* Introduction (state the problem)
* Introduce the Problem (personal experience, facts, etc.)
* Propose a Solution
* Conclusion

2. Scholarship Photograph:

Submit a photograph with your application. Your photograph will not be given to the application review board and, therefore, will not be used in the application review process for selecting scholarship winners. However, photographs of the scholarship winners only will be used to announce the winners after they have been selected.

3. Assignment of Rights; Consent to Publish Scholarship Information: Sign and submit the Assignment of Rights and Consent to Publish Scholarship Information form included with the application. By signing this form, you give us the right to publish your photograph(s) and basic information regarding your past accomplishments and future in the event you are a scholarship winner.

**Deadline:** For scholarships for the school year beginning fall, 2022 all submissions listed above must be postmarked and/or mailed NO LATER THAN May 18, 2022. We will announce winners by May 25, 2022. Send completed application to:

Wilmington (NC) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated

401 North 7th Street

Wilmington, NC 28401.

We do not print application packets received via email. All considered packets must be sent by U.S. mail.We suggest that you get a copy of your receipt for mailing in the event there is an issue with the mail. Keep a copy of your packet for your records and future use.

4**. Questions**: If you have any questions regarding your submission or criteria, please email Acquinetta Beatty at rocbeatty@aim.com or call 910-231-6398.