

DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

Architecture plays a vital role in the shaping of our communities, yet the Architecture profession is profoundly lacking in diversity, specifically Black American representation. While Black Americans make up 14% of the US population*, out of over 116,000 nationally registered architects, they represent a dismal 2.0% with Black American women representing a staggering less than 0.5%. In its continued commitment to actionable accountability through increasing the diversification of the Architectural profession, AIA Miami is offering a scholarship program specific to the advancement of Black Americans into the profession. The scholarship will strategically focus on education, with the aim of providing opportunities to facilitate an increase in the number of black American architecture graduates; with the potential of becoming licensed professionals, a forward step in closing the racial disparity gap within the profession.

The Black American Diversity scholarship supports the recruitment and retention of Black Americans in accredited architectural degree programs by assisting scholarship recipients with offsetting the cost of tuition, books, and materials. A minimum of one scholarship valued up to \$4,500 will be awarded annually. The number and value of awards may vary year-to-year based on applications and available funds.

Each scholarship recipient receives AIA Miami community exposure, in addition to the funds towards an architecture NAAB accredited degree cost.

ELEGIBILITY

The AIA Miami Diversity Scholarship is open to those who increase diversity in the profession and meet the following criteria:

- Applicants must identify as Black or of African American descent
- US citizen/resident
- Proof of student home residence in Miami-Dade or Monroe County
- Active enrollment in an NAAB accredited academic institution in the USA; OR acceptance into an NAAB accredited academic institution in the U.S.

SCHEDULE

- Open: October 20, 2023. Launch across social media and email-blasts
- Deadline: November 20, 2023, by 11:59pm EST
- Recipient Notification: January 3, 2024

Scholarships are awarded based on recommendations of the Selection Committee, as appointed by the AIA Miami Board.

*2020 US Census

APPLICATION CRITERIA

Applicant must submit the following:

- File name: Last Name, FirstName. AIA Diversity Scholarship.pdf
 - 1 compiled PDF, maximum 15MB, in order shown below
- Completed Scholarship Application
- Headshot
- Proof of Active enrollment in an NAAB accredited academic institution in the USA; or letter of acceptance into an NAAB accredited academic institution in the USA
- Proof of Miami-Dade or Monroe County residence
- Portfolio/Work Sample (maximum of 5 PDF pages with 300 dpi minimum)
- Two Letters of Recommendation from a teacher/professor or someone in the architecture profession, specific to this scholarship application
- Letter of Interest
A brief introduction of applicant outlining why applicant has decided to pursue a degree in architecture and how applicant envisions themselves impacting the profession. Include achievements in and out of school such as community involvement, volunteering, club associations, academic awards, etc. Include a brief statement of financial need and how the scholarship will be used - books, supplies, tuition, etc. (1,000 word maximum)
- Minimum GPA of 3.2

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