



2025 Arizona MLK Beacon Scholarship & Grant Award Information & Application

The Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Celebration Committee (AZMLK), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded to promote cultural diversity, awareness, and unity as it seeks to involve all Arizonans in recognizing the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the contributions he left to the world in his quest for equality for all people.

The AZMLK Committee seeks to celebrate students who demonstrate the principles of scholarship and civic participation, and the ideals of hope and possibility lived by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with its inaugural AZ MLK Beacon Scholarship and Grant Award. AZMLK Beacon Scholarship Award (high school senior) and AZMLK Beacon Grant Award (high school junior) winners must demonstrate a personal commitment to the ideals of Dr. King through participation and leadership in school and community activities.

Eligibility

To be eligible to compete for the AZMLK Beacon Scholar Award, an applicant must:

1. **FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP:** Be a **high school senior** enrolled as a full-time student in an Arizona high school and graduate from high school this academic year (between 12/1/25 and 8/31/25) AND plan to pursue an undergraduate degree at a public or private college or university, trade school or apprenticeship program (start date no later than 9/30/24). *Awardee must show proof of enrollment and associated tuition in an undergraduate degree program at either a 2-or 4-year accredited college/university, trade school or registered apprenticeship program prior to disbursement of award. Scholarship will be paid in a one-time, single disbursement equal to the **first full year of tuition** (scholarship value up to \$10,000).*
2. **FOR THE GRANT:** Be a **high school junior** enrolled as a full-time student in an Arizona high school and graduate from high school next academic year (between 12/1/25 and 8/31/26)
3. Earn a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
4. Reside in Arizona to apply.
5. Attend AZMLK Living the Dream Awards Breakfast on Friday, January 17, 2025.

Application Guidelines

Submit a completed application package postmarked by: **Friday, October 11, 2024**

Application package must include:

- Completed AZMLK Beacon Scholar Award Application
- Two (2) signed Letters of Recommendation. One letter must be from a teacher or administrator at your school; one letter must be from an adult who is not related to you who is involved with activities in your community (e.g. nonprofit organization, church, civic organization, extra-curricular). **Limit:** 1 page for each letter.
- List of activities and service clubs in which you are involved both at school and in the community. Next to each activity, briefly describe the group's mission, what role you have filled in the group, how you have led the group, and how you have helped propel it toward its goals. **Limit:** 1 page – double-spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins.
- Personal Statement. Our aim is to cultivate life-long leaders for social justice who through their actions strengthen their community and build a culture of service. Such activities include, but are not limited to, organizing and/or providing leadership of groups for social action; planning or involvement in programs to address community issues; or gathering resources to address a need. You will need to respond with your Personal "Beacon" Statement. **Limit:** 2 pages – double-spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins.

Application must be postmarked by: Friday, October 11, 2024

Finalists may be interviewed on [or about] Friday, November 1 or Saturday, November 2, 2024.

The Arizona MLK Beacon Scholarship is a single disbursement of up to \$10,000 to a high school senior contingent upon proof of enrollment in an undergraduate degree program at either a 2-or 4-year accredited college/university, trade school or registered apprenticeship program.

**2025 AZ MLK Beacon Scholarship (High School Senior)
& Grant (High School Junior) Award APPLICATION**

I. STUDENT INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

City/Zip:

Cell phone:

Email address:

School Name:

School Address:

City/Zip:

School Contact*:

*Principal, Counselor or Teacher

Phone number for School Contact:

Grade level as of 12/31/24:

I certify that all information in this application is accurate and truthful. If selected as an AZMLK Beacon Scholarship or Grant recipient, I authorize the release of community service information, and the essays contained in this application.

Student's Signature

Date

Student Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____

Certified by:

School Principal or Counselor's Signature/ Printed Name/Phone Number

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2025 AZMLK Beacon Scholarship and Grant Award Personal Statement

Submit a **personal BEACON Statement**. Your statement should be no more than 2 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, with one-inch margins and should specifically discuss the following:

1. What do the ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. mean to you?
2. What are you doing to promote a "just society" in your community or school?
3. How has your commitment to social justice, cultural diversity, equality, and unity impacted your life?
4. What will you do to continue to be a "beacon" for social responsibility in the future?

Submit a complete application package by **Friday, October 11, 2024** to:

**Arizona MLK Celebration Committee
ATTN: BEACON Scholarship
701 South Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004**

Complete package (*unstapled*) must include:

**2025 Beacon Scholar application
Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
List of activities
Personal BEACON Statement**

It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that references have ample time to get the required information to you or AZMLK.

The Scholarship Committee will only accept original documents received by the application deadline. Emailed or faxed documents will not be accepted. AZMLK is not responsible for lost items or improperly handled by mail services.

Please plan carefully to ensure your application receives the consideration it deserves.

If you have questions, contact 602-513-8311 or AZMLK.org

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