



Dear 2020 Strive Scholarship Applicant:

The Santa Clara County Housing Authority (SCCHA) commends you for continuing your education. SCCHA's service to Santa Clara County extends beyond the housing we build and the rental assistance vouchers we administer. We are committed to helping low-income families become self-sufficient and independent of government aid. We created the Strive scholarship program to provide post-secondary educational financial assistance for Section 8 tenants or tenants of rental properties owned by or affiliated with SCCHA.

SCCHA will award up to 50 Strive scholarships to college-bound high school seniors, continuing college students, or returning students attending a university, community college or technical school on a full or part time basis in Fall 2020. The SCCHA Strive scholarship award committee will review and score all Strive applications. The applicants with the highest scores will receive an award of \$1,000.00 each. Scores will be based on the following: personal statement, letter of recommendation, community activities and volunteer work, grade point average, and quality of overall application.

In order to qualify for this scholarship, applicants must be Section 8 participants or tenants of a rental property owned by or affiliated with SCCHA (see www.scchousingauthority.org for SCCHA property listings). All applications will be verified with tenant records. Strive applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in their current or prior school. There is no age limit for recipients. Strive scholarships will not be available to applicants who have already received four previous Strive awards.

To apply, complete the following application, write an essay about your long-term goals and how this scholarship could help you meet those goals, and provide one letter of recommendation and a copy of your most current transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable). *The transcripts requirement is waived for applicants who have been out of school for five or more years.* If you are interested in applying for a Strive scholarship, please submit these documents by Wednesday, **May 20, 2020 by 5:00 p.m.** Dhory.Sison@scchousingauthority.org or fax: (408) 993-4426.

Applications received after the due date and time will not be accepted.

An email will be sent to you within 3 business days to confirm that your application was received.

If you have questions about the Strive scholarship application, please call 408-993-3026.

Please do not call to inquire about the status of your submitted application.

All applicants will be notified about whether or not they will receive a scholarship by June 5, 2020.



All eligible applications must meet the following requirements:

1. Applications must be typewritten. Applications that are not typewritten will automatically be disqualified from consideration.
2. Submitted applications must include all items listed below (see Application Checklist). Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5. This will be verified by the transcripts included with the application. This requirement is waived for applicants who have been out of school for five or more years.
4. If currently in school, applicants must be in good standing with their high school/college and may not be on disciplinary or academic probation.
5. Applicants enrolling in a new college/university/technical school for Fall 2020 must include a Letter of Acceptance and/or Verification of Enrollment with the completed application.

Application Checklist

We will only review **complete** applications. Incomplete applications will not be considered. **All items must be included with your scholarship application.**

Before you seal your envelope or hit send on your email/fax, please verify that each of the following items are filled out and included:

- Personal Information
- Education
- Community Activities and Volunteer Experience
- Personal Essay
- One Letter of Recommendation
- Letter of Acceptance and/or Verification of Enrollment if starting a new school in Fall 2020
- Most-recent transcript (not applicable for students returning to school in Fall 2020 after five or more years out of school)
- Consent to Release Information

STRIVE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE SUBMIT TYPEWRITTEN APPLICATION

Personal Information

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Apartment Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ Home Work Cell

Email Address: _____

Which of these applies to you? (select only one)

I am a member of a SCCHA Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher household (Entity ID: _____)

I am a resident of a SCCHA owned or affiliated property (Property: _____)

Does your family participate in the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) program? Yes No

Are you a previous Strive Scholarship Recipient? Yes No

If yes, in what year(s) and what amount(s) were you awarded?



First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Education

Are you currently attending or planning on attending one of the following?

- Vocational School Community College
- College or University Graduate School/Medical School/Certificate Program, etc.

Please provide the name of the college/university/vocational school you are attending in Fall 2020:

Name of educational institution:

City/ST of educational institution:

Education history: Please list your current or most recent place of study first:

School and Location	Area(s) of Concentration	Dates Attended	Degree/Year



First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Community Activities and Volunteer Experience

Please list any service organizations, sports teams and/or groups in which you have participated in the last 12 months:

Activity	Organization & Location	Roles & Responsibilities	Dates



Personal Essay

On a separate page, tell us:

1. What are your long-term goals after completing college or vocational training?
2. How could this scholarship help you meet those goals?

All essays will be judged on clarity of expression, content, composition and originality.

Please limit essay to one page maximum.

Letter of Recommendation

Along with the application, one letter of recommendation is **required**. This letter can come from an employer, teacher, clergy person, etc. The person writing the recommendation **cannot** be a family member. The recommendation should address the following questions:

1. What is your relationship to the applicant?
2. Why would you recommend this applicant for a scholarship award?
3. Is there any other information you think would be important for our consideration?

Please limit letter to one page maximum. Letter should be dated within the last 12 months.



Consent to Release Information

If selected as a scholarship recipient, do you give consent for the Santa Clara County Housing Authority to use your name and the information you have provided about you in media or other publicity regarding the scholarship program? If you wish to give such consent, please sign and submit this Consent to Release of Information form with this application. *All applications will be considered regardless of consent given or not given to release information.*

Yes If yes, read below statement and sign your name

No I do not give consent to release information

I, _____, have provided the information contained herein to the Santa Clara County Housing Authority in connection with my Strive Scholarship application. As of the date below, I hereby assign to the Santa Clara County Housing Authority this information for its exclusive use for public relations or communication materials, as well as any written material, photographs, videos, and/or audio recordings taken in the production of brochures, flyers, videos and radio spots at any time, and without limitations. Any exception I wish to make to this "blanket" assignment of the use of such information I have provided is set forth below on this consent form.

I hereby authorize the Santa Clara County Housing Authority to reproduce, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute any written materials, photographs, video and/or audio recordings in connection with their business operations purposes.

I understand and agree that I have not, and will not, receive any compensation for the Housing Authority's use of the materials and information described herein.

Exceptions: None

As follows: _____

Applicant signature (for applicants under 18, parent or guardian signature)

Applicant name (printed):

Applicant address: