COBB COUNTY NAACP

January 1, 2025,

Dear Applicant,

The Cobb County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is now accepting applications for the Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner (President Emeritus) Advocacy Scholarship. This selective scholarship is open to graduating Cobb County high school seniors who display commitment to public service, community engagement **and** who will be enrolling in a Historically Black College or University, or any post-secondary undergraduate institution in Georgia, in the Fall of 2025.

A $1,000 non-renewable scholarship will be awarded to ten qualified applicants. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 25, 2025. Chosen recipients will be notified of their scholarship award by April 22, 2025. Scholarship checks will be distributed to the student's college or university by July 25, 2025, pending proof of enrollment.

Please see the attached documents for additional scholarship requirements and deadlines.

Thank you for your interest in the Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship.

Best Wishes,

Jeriene Willis, President
Cobb County NAACP

Mattie Small, Scholarship Chair/2nd Vice President
Cobb County NAACP

The Cobb County NAACP
Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship

Deane Thompson Bonner, Cobb County NAACP President Emeritus

A Community Activist
Equality. Fairness. Justice. Service.

The NAACP, a pivotal civil rights organization, has long been a beacon of progress in our nation. Within its noble pursuit of the National NAACP's mission, the Cobb County NAACP stands distinguished, earning recognition as one of the leading branches in the state of Georgia. Noteworthy leaders like Reverend R. L. Johnson, Hugh Grogan, Dover Ferrell, and Deane Thompson Bonner have steered its course. Assuming presidency in 1997, Deane Thompson Bonner emerged as a stalwart champion for civil rights, becoming synonymous with freedom fighters in Cobb County and across Georgia.

Under President Bonner's steadfast leadership, the Cobb County NAACP achieved significant milestones that empowered the community and championed progress. The ACT-SO program celebrated students' remarkable achievements in academics and the arts, showcasing their talents and potential. The organization led Voter Registration Drives, fostering civic engagement and empowering individuals to participate in the democratic process. Over a sustained three-year period, the NAACP advocated for individuals to pursue and excel in public service roles, fostering greater representation in leadership positions. These efforts, along with President Bonner's advocacy for the MLK holiday and celebrations in all six Cobb County cities and her work to advance minority representation in local government, underscore her commitment to meaningful change.

Deane Thompson Bonner's unwavering passion for advocacy defined her impactful leadership. She played a pivotal role in securing the release of John McNeil, a Black man convicted in a controversial case involving the shooting of a white man in 2013, demonstrating her steadfast commitment to justice. Her dedication to celebrating Black culture and history led her to establish the Juneteenth Celebration on Marietta Square, an event that now attracts over 50,000 attendees annually. Ending her 20-year tenure as president in 2018, Bonner's leadership embodied her relentless pursuit of justice, equality, and community empowerment, leaving a legacy rooted in advocacy.

The Cobb County NAACP
Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship 2025

The Cobb County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship honors the legacy of the Cobb County NAACP and Deane Thompson Bonner, President Emeritus.

- Scholarship recipients are chosen from qualified Cobb County graduating senior applicants who display signs of commitment to public service and community engagement.
- Each year the Cobb County NAACP will provide non-renewable scholarships to qualified applicants.
- The Cobb County NAACP will award ten $1,000.00 scholarships, Tuesday, April 22, 2025.
- Recipients must complete the application process by the scholarship application deadline Tuesday, March 25, 2025.
- Chosen recipients will be awarded scholarships for the Fall Term 2025 pending proof of enrollment.

The Cobb County NAACP
Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship 2025

Criteria

- DEADLINE for scholarship applications is **Tuesday, March 25, 2025**. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**
- Refer to application process below for a list of required supporting documents (i.e., reference forms, evidence of GPA, etc.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- If any question does not apply to you in this application, please enter N/A in the space.
- Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will be returned.
- Applicants will be notified by phone and email by **Tuesday, April 22, 2025,** regarding the status of the submitted scholarship application.

PURPOSE

The Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship provides financial support to selected individuals who will be enrolled in undergraduate studies at a Historically Black College or university, or any post-secondary undergraduate institution in Georgia.

REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be a graduate of a Cobb County high school.
- Applicants must have completed high school successfully with a minimum unweighted grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicants must be a member of the NAACP. If you are not a member, join today (NAACP Membership Application included).
- Applicants must provide proof of acceptance as a full-time student at a Historically Black College or university, or any post-secondary institution in Georgia beginning in the upcoming academic semester (Fall 2025).
- Scholarship recipients will receive their check for the term **only** after providing the Cobb County NAACP with proof of enrollment.
- Submit a Short-Essay (See essay requirements below).

TIMELINE

- Applications are due by **Tuesday, March 25, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Applicants are notified by **Tuesday, April 22, 2025**.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:

- Completed application form.
- Completed essay: typed, double-spaced, a minimum of 250 words on the following topic:

  "The mission of the Cobb County NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination."

  Essay Question: How would you advocate to further the mission of the NAACP?
- Official high school transcript in a **sealed** envelope from the institution.
- Two references: one from a community leader, coach, pastor, or guidance counselor, **and** one from a teacher.
- List of extracurricular activities and community service participation.

Application deadline is **Tuesday, March 25, 2025.**
Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered.

Please mail completed applications to:
Cobb County NAACP - P.O. Box 598 - Marietta, GA 30061

The Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship

Scholarship Application 2025

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address _____

High School _____

Address _____

I will attend the following school: Fall of 2025 as a Full-time Freshman

School _____

Address _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Grade Point Average (GPA) _____ (On a 4.0 Scale)

Attach your most recent transcript. Must be **official** and in a sealed envelope.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) information:

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone/cell phone of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) _____

What do you plan to major in as you continue your education?

_____

Goals: What are your short- and long-term goals?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Career Plans: What are your career plans?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

List the following information on a separate sheet if needed:

School extra-curricular activities: List school extra-curricular activities in which you have participated. Note leadership roles and dates held.

_____

_____

_____

Organizations: List organizations you have participated in, volunteered with, or provided service to. Note leadership roles and dates held.

_____

_____

_____

Recognitions: List important awards and recognitions received. Note organization(s) presenting honor and dates.

_____

_____

Two references: One from a community leader, pastor, coach or guidance counselor and one from a teacher. References must be in a sealed envelope and included in the scholarship package.

_____

_____

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship recipient for the Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Signature of Scholarship Applicant **Date**

_____

The Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship

Distribution Form

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address _____

I will attend the following school: Fall of 2025 as a Full-time Freshman

School _____

Address _____

Phone Number(s) _____

List proof of enrollment documentation _____

Attach documentation _____

Name and address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s)

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I hereby understand that before scholarship funds can be awarded, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary college/university of my choice as a recipient of the Cobb County NAACP/Deane Thompson Bonner Advocacy Scholarship.

Signature of Scholarship Applicant **Date**

_____

Cobb County NAACP Photo Release Form

I hereby grant permission to the Cobb County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to use photographs and/or videos of me taken for publications, news releases, online, and other communications related to the mission of the Cobb County NAACP.

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone_____Cell Phone_____

Email Address _____

Signature _____

***Signature of Adult, or Guardian of Children under age 18**

* _____

Date _____

Cobb County NAACP
PO BOX 598
Marietta, GA 30061

cobbnaacp@gmail.com www.cobbnaacp.org

Phone: 770-425-5757

NAACP MEMBERSHIP
COBB COUNTY BRANCH

WHY ASSOCIATE WITH THE NAACP?

For over 100 years, the NAACP has been leading the **fight for freedom.** The NAACP ensures the political, educational, social, and economic equality of people of color by holding the governmennt and corporate America accountable. Your membership is invaluable to the continued existence of NAACP advocacy iniatives, outreach programs, and litigation efforts.

WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER?

Anyone who supports the mission of the NAACP, irrespective of race, religion, political affiliation or ideology, can become a member of the NAACP. Members can affiliate with the local youth, college, or adult units in their area,

OUR VISION

The vision of the **National Association for the Advancment of Colored People** is a society in which all individuals have equal rights, and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination.

WHAT NOW?

Join the NAACP! Complete and detach the membership form below and mail it, along with your payment, to the address below. If preferred, you may apply online at **www.cobbnnaacp.org.**

1 MEMBER INFORMATION *(please print clearly)*

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Miss ☐ Other _____ Date ____ ____ ____

First Name _____ M.I. ____ Last Name _____

Address _____ Apt./Suite ____

City _____ State ____ Zip ____

Unit Affiliation _____ Current Membership No. *(if renewal)* _____

Phone No. ___-___-____ Email Address _____

2 MEMBERSHIP TYPE *(please check one)*

REGULAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

__ **Regular Adult** (Ages 21 & older) $30

__ **Youth** (Ages 20 & under)..... $15

__ **Youth** (Ages 17 & under) $10

__ **Annual Corporate** $5,000

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

__ **Junior Life** (Payable in annual installments if $25 or more)..... $100
(Ages 13 & under __/__/__ Date of Birth)

__ **Bronze Life** (Payable in annual installments if $50 or more)..... $400
(Ages 14-20 __/__/__ Date of Birth)

__ **Silver Life** (Payable in annual installments if $75 or more)..... $750

__ **Gold Life** (Payable in annual installments if $150 or more)..... $1,500
Only available to Silver or Regular Life Members

__ **Diamond Life** (Payable in annual installments if $150 or more).. $2,500
Only available to Gold or Golden Heritage Life Members

3 PAYMENT

Amount Paid $ _____ ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ American Express ☐ Cash

Credit Card Number _____ ☐ Check *(checks and money orders should be made payable to. NAACP)*

Name as it Appears on Card _____ Expiration Date _____

Authorized Signature _____ Or Pay by Credit Card Online at: www.NAACP.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Mail Membership Payment To:
Cobb County NAACP #5218
605B Roswell Street / PO Box 598
Marietta, GA 30061

Contact Number: 770-425-5757
Website: www.cobbnaacp.org
Email: cobbnaacp@gmail.com