



# Midwest Conference Lay Organization

P.O. Box 300531  
Kansas City, Missouri 64130



*Connectional Theme:*

Living a Global Witness Ministry that  
**TRANSFORMS, TRANSCENDS AND LIBERATES**

## TEAM MIDWEST

Officers of the  
Midwest Conference Lay  
Organization

Monice Crawford  
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Dr. Marilyn Johnson-Farr  
*First Vice President*

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*Second Vice President*

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Darian Jefferson  
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Lori Miller  
*Financial Secretary*

Timothy Goff  
*Chaplain*

Foster Chisholm  
*Parliamentarian*

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Online Giving:  
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KCMO 64108

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Date: April 7, 2025

To: All Churches in the Midwest Annual Conference

Subject: J. D. Williams Scholarship

Attached is the application for the 2025 J. D. Williams Scholarship. Please ensure that each of your high school graduating seniors is made aware of this scholarship and are provided with an application.

This application, with all the required information, must be received by the Scholarship Committee or postmarked no later than May 10, 2025. If not received by the stated deadline or if required information is not provided, we will be unable to consider the application. The allocation of scholarship funds will be determined by the Scholarship Committee. Each recipient will be officially notified by the Scholarship Chairperson.

Please mail application and materials to:

Esther Gillmore, Scholarship Committee Chair  
1711 East 59th Terrace  
Kansas City, Missouri 64110

For further information, send email to  
[egillmore738@gmail.com](mailto:egillmore738@gmail.com)

Sincerely,

Esther Gillmore,  
Midwest Conference Lay Organization Committee Chairperson

Scholarship Committee:

Terry L. Crowder    Phyllis Gentry    Nedra Locke    Danita M. H. Robinson

**THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION  
J. D. WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP**

The J.D. Williams Scholarship is to be presented to students who are members of one of our African Methodist Episcopal Churches within the Midwest Conference. Its purpose is to assist worthy young persons of the Christian Faith in obtaining a degree in higher education. The Midwest Conference Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church will administer the funds for this scholarship.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

1. An active member of an African Methodist Episcopal Church within the Midwest Conference.
2. Must have a GPA of 2.5 or better.
3. Must enter college, university, trade or vocational school program in the summer or fall of 2025.

**THE SELECTION PROCESS**

A judging committee composed of members of the Midwest Conference, or their designee, will use established requirements to determine the scholarship recipients. The judges will evaluate eligible applicants: academic record; reference letters; qualities of leadership; extracurricular activities and accomplishments. The recipients will be notified in writing if selected. All decisions by the judges are final. No material will be returned. Applications not completed in full or not received by the deadline will not be processed.

**SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT**

The scholarship winner(s) will be announced at the organization's Annual Lay Convention. Proof of enrollment must be received by the organization for the final awarding of the scholarship(s). If appropriate documentation is not received by the end of the conference year, scholarship funds will be returned to the organization's general scholarship fund.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

The following documents **must be submitted**:

1. The completed application form **must** be typed or printed (legible) in ink and signed by Pastor and Lay President.
2. 300-500-word essay on the topic: "The Value of Retaining Black History as Part of American History in the 21st Century".
3. A sealed envelope with the current high school transcript, signed with an official stamp mailed directly to the Scholarship Committee. **No copies accepted.** Mail transcript to:

Esther Gillmore, Scholarship Committee Chair  
1711 East 59th Terrace  
Kansas City, MO 64110

4. A minimum of two letters of reference.
  - One letter must be from your current Pastor or President of your Local Lay Organization.
  - Additional letters of recommendation are encouraged and may be from a High School Teacher; Principal; Counselor or other community leader.
  - **Each letter must be addressed specifically to the J. D. Williams Scholarship.**
5. A Resume of Activities/Involvement.
6. Local Lay Organization's Fair Share must be paid to be eligible.

A review of all listed materials by the Local Lay President, Pastor, or a member of the Local Lay Organization prior to submitting to the Scholarship Committee is advised.

**THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND REQUIRED MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED/POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 10, 2025.**

**Applications will not be considered for the following reasons:**

- Incomplete Application and/or failure to submit Information Form or separate resume.
- No current high school transcript.
- Essay is less than 300 words and/or failure to submit essay or submit an essay for another topic.
- Not submitting all required materials by the deadline date.
- Local Lay Organization Fair Share is not paid.

**THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION  
J. D. WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

**PERSONAL DATA:**

First Middle Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M: \_\_\_ F: \_\_\_

**Parent(s)/Guardian**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION:**

Graduating High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**HIGHER EDUCATION INFORMATION:**

Please list the name and address of the institution of higher learning that you plan to attend.

College/University/Trade School: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Planned Major: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMISSION APPROVAL:**

Local Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor (Signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Lay President (Signature): \_\_\_\_\_

**THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION  
J. D. WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP INVOLVEMENT FORM**

**RESUME OF ACTIVITIES/INVOLVEMENT:**

Use this page to share your significant participation, leadership and accomplishments or present a separate resume or descriptive summary along with your scholarship application.

**Church Involvement**

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**Community Involvement**

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**School Involvement/Extra Curricular Activities/Clubs/Projects**

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**Scholastic Achievements/ Academic Honors/Awards,**

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**Employment**

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