



Diamond Youth Foundation

PO Box 3955
Naperville, Il 60567

January 16, 2012

Dear Student:

The Diamond Youth Foundation is pleased to invite you to apply for our annual Scholarship Contest. In the past, our Foundation has given six \$1,000 scholarship awards to deserving high school graduates. To be eligible for one of these awards, each student candidates must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better, based upon a 4.0 grade scale. Primary consideration will be given to students residing in Northwestern, Western and Southwestern suburbs of Chicago and African American students but the scholarship committee will consider all qualified applicants.

To apply for the scholarship the student candidate must submit the following:

- A completed application form (see attached)
- A double-spaced, typewritten composition describing the goal(s) the student hopes to achieve upon completing their college education (maximum 2 pages)
- Financial need is part of the selection criteria. If you want your financial need to be considered, please provide a copy of the family's most recent Tax Return.
- An official copy of the student's academic transcript. NOTE: official means the transcript has the official school seal affixed to or imprinted on the paperwork.

- Three letters of recommendation from:
 1. One letter from a school official (i.e., teacher, counselor, principal, coach)
 2. One letter from a leader of a church or community service group you are associated with (minister, youth group director, volunteer organization coordinator)
 3. One letter from another adult who can provide insight regarding your character and activities (church, community service, youth activity, neighbor, school official)

The selection process for scholarship awards will be based upon the following criteria:

Academic Performance
Demonstrated Leadership Skills
Community Service
Financial need

If selected as a finalist, you will be interviewed by the Scholarship Committee. More details will be provided to all finalists.

Please mail your scholarship application package to:

Diamond Youth Foundation Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 3955
Naperville, IL 60567

To receive full consideration, all of the above information must be received by **March 16, 2012**. If you have any questions, please call me at **630-508-7087** or email me at jjackson@diamond-youth.org.

James C. Jackson, Jr.
Scholarship Committee Chairman