

AMSTERDAM HOUSING AUTHORITY DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Damaris G. Carbone, Executive Director



Staff Contacts:

Main Office: 518-842-2894

Bob: Ext. 101

Teresa: Ext 102

Brenda: Ext 103

Tisha: Ext 104

Damaris: Ext 105

AHA Website and Email:

www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org

inquiry@amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Fraud

fraud@amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Office Address:

52 Division Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Maintenance Requests:

518-842-2895 (24 hour – emergencies
only after 3:30pm)

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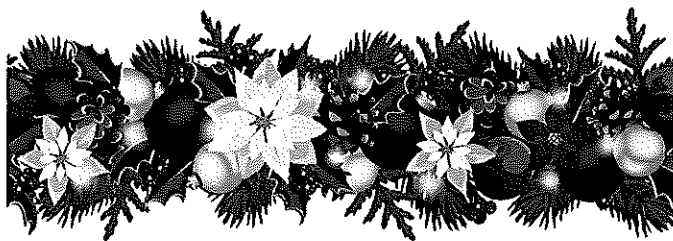
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The staff of the Amsterdam Housing
Authority would like to wish you & your
family a Merry Christmas!





Notes from the Office

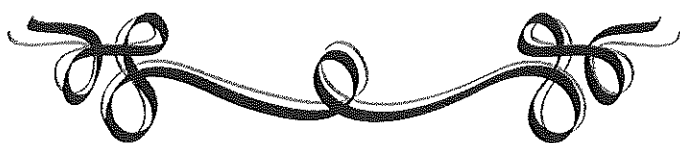


The Amsterdam Housing Authority is now on Facebook & our website is www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org



~ The AHA Office Will be Closed ~

December 25th for the Christmas Holiday



**** FLAT RENTS FOR 2020 ****

Please see the attached flyers with information regarding the new flat rents for 2020. If you currently do not pay the flat rent this increase will not affect you. This only applies to those tenants who pay the flat rent, for these tenants the increase will be effective with your next annual recertification, if at that time your tenant rent amount is greater than the flat rent for your unit size.

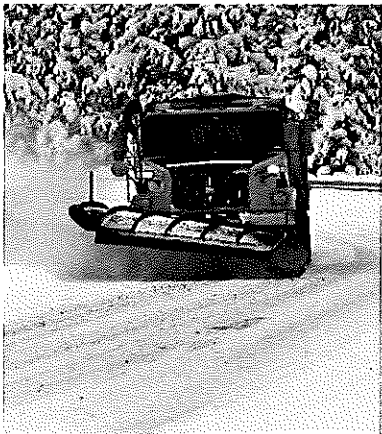
Snow Removal & Salt

The AHA removes snow from roads, parking lots and major walkways after snowfalls. Tenants in the Garden Apartments are responsible for clearing the sidewalks, ramps & steps leading from their apartments to the main walkways. Salt is available to residents' weekdays between 7:00 am to 3:00pm. Hi Rise and Garden Apartment tenants can obtain salt at the rear entrance of the High Rise; salt for Stratton tenants is available in the Stratton lobby.



Power & Cable Outages

When the power or cables goes out, please understand that it is out of the control of the Amsterdam Housing Authority. We must be patient and wait for National Grid or Spectrum to fix the problem. If we are notified that the power or cable will be out for an extended period, we will do our best to keep you informed. Also, when the power/cable is out our office phones do not work, you may hear it ringing on your end, but we are not able to receive the call on our end. If you leave us a message with your name and phone number, we will return your call when our system goes back up



IMPORTANT – Winter Parking

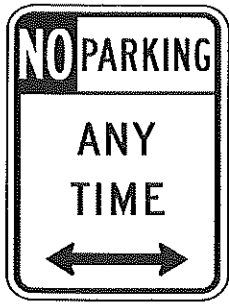
Vehicle towing during winter season -

It is important to register your vehicle with the office! Any resident who owns a vehicle and wishes to park in any AHA parking lots is required to register their vehicle with the administrative office. Please stop in to the office to obtain your vehicle sticker. There is NO cost for the sticker. Any vehicle that is parked in one of AHA's parking lots that is not registered, **WILL BE TOWED**. This is necessary in order to insure the maximum level of safety for all residents who will need to utilize the parking lots this winter. Having to plow around vehicles creates a safety hazard with the excess snow that is left in the parking lot. Beginning this year all unregistered vehicles will be towed on the morning of snowstorms.

Any cars parked in the fire lanes will be towed without warning, at the car owners' expense. Maintenance needs to be able to access these areas in order to plow our parking lots.

Please be cooperative during snow removal. Please move your vehicles to cleared areas so that the maintenance staff can plow the parking lots more effectively.





Reminder...

Parking is not allowed in the AHA Employee parking lot on Wall St. at any time.



Hiring...

Aldi
NBT Bank
Super Shoes
Hoffman Car Wash
Home Depot
Dollar General
Price Chopper
Power & Composite Technologies
Target
Original Works
Planet Fitness

Michaels
Sally Beauty
Rue21
Power Pallet & Recycling
Liberty ARC
PetSmart
Amsterdam Printing & Litho
St. Mary's Healthcare
Mobile - Cashier
Walgreens
Kohls
Lowes
McDonalds
Rite Aid
Stewarts
Tractor Supply Co.
Big Lots
Catholic Charities - Domestic Violence
Beechnut
Hill & Marks
Cranesville Block
Broadway Homecare
Raindancer Restaurant
Pizza Hut
River Ridge
Dominos
Town & Country Deli
ABM Industries
AutoZone

~Activities & Events~



Annual Holiday Open House

Sat Dec 14th 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Walter Elwood Museum, 100 Church St.,
Amsterdam, NY

-Live music, light refreshments & Holiday Shopping.

-Gift Shop will be open for great Holiday Gifts with lots of new books by local authors.

-Make holiday Ornament crafts with Suzanna Hunter

- Live music with Rachelle Cotugno on guitar



Amsterdam Free Library

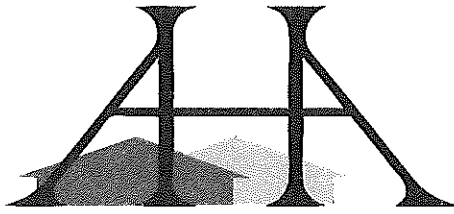
Family Fun: Holiday Crafternoon

WhenSat, December 7, 12pm – 4pm

Description

Ornament Stations-Cookie
s-Hot Cocoa - Games-
Music-Coloring

Please call 518-842-1080
to register



AMSTERDAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

Damaris G. Carbone, Executive Director

52 Division Street • Amsterdam, New York 12010

www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org

November 15, 2019

To All Amsterdam Housing Authority Residents:

The Amsterdam Housing Authority Board of Commissioners has approved our request for a “flat rent” increase. This increase will take effect as of January 1, 2020 but you will not see the increase until your next yearly recertification.

We are required by HUD to establish flat rents at no less than 80% of the fair market rent. The current flat rents are below the threshold recommended. Therefore, in order to be compliant, the flat rents will be increasing. Please refer to the chart below for the new flat rents.

IF YOU CURRENTLY DO NOT PAY THE “FLAT RENT” THIS WILL NOT AFFECT YOU. THIS WILL ONLY AFFECT THOSE TENANTS WHO PAY THE FLAT RENT.

Hi Rise/Stratton

Bedroom Size	Current Flat Rent	New Flat Rent Effective January 1, 2020
Efficiency	\$519	\$574
One Bedroom	\$522	\$554
Two Bedrooms	\$630	\$646

Garden Apartments

Bedroom Size	Current Flat Rent	New Flat Rent Effective January 1, 2018
Two Bedrooms	\$611	\$655
Three Bedrooms	\$747	\$817
Four Bedrooms	\$851	\$910
Five Bedrooms	\$933	\$1054

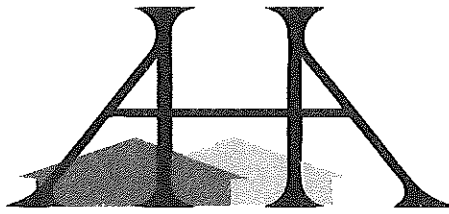
You have thirty days to comment on these changes. All comments, concerns, etc., must be put in writing to the housing authority office.

Brenda Tesiero
AHA



☒ Conventional Housing Program
Phone: (518) 842-2894 • Fax: (518) 842-9526

☐ Section 8 Rental Assistance Program
Phone: (518) 842-2907 • Fax: (518) 842-2973



AMSTERDAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

Damaris G. Carbone, Executive Director

15 de Noviembre del 2020

52 Division Street • Amsterdam, New York 12010

www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Para Todo Los Residentes del Amsterdam Housing Authority:

Los Comisarios del Amsterdam Housing Authority han aprobado nuestra petición de un aumento a la renta de "flat rent" (renta plana). Este aumento será efectivo a partir del 01 de Enero del 2020, pero usted no verá el aumento hasta su próxima recertificación anual.

Estamos obligados por HUD para establecer "flat rents" (rentas planas) a no menos del 80% del feria mercado de alquiler. Las flat rents (rentas planas) actuales están por debajo del umbral recomendado. Por lo tanto, para ser obediente, el flat rent (rentas planas) van a aumentar. Por favor consulte la tabla siguiente para los nuevos flat rents (rentas planas).

SI USTED ACTUALMENTE NO PAGA EL "FLAT RENT" (RENTA PLANA) ESTO NO LE AFECTARÁ A USTED. ESTO SÓLO AFECTARÁ A AQUELLOS INQUILINOS QUE PAGAN EL FLAT RENT (LA RENTA PLANA).

Hi Rise/Stratton

Tamaño de la habitación	Flat Rent (Renta Plana) Actualmente	Flat Rent (Renta Plana) Efectivo 01 de Enero del 2018
Eficiencia	\$519	\$574
Un dormitorio	\$522	\$554
Dos dormitorios	\$630	\$646

Apartamentos jardín

Tamaño de la habitación	Flat Rent (Renta Plana) Actualmente	Flat Rent (Renta Plana) Efectivo 01 de Enero del 2018
Dos dormitorios	\$611	\$655
Tres dormitorios	\$747	\$817
Cuatro dormitorios	\$851	\$910
Cinco dormitorios	\$933	\$1054

Usted tiene treinta días para comentar sobre estos cambios. Todos los comentarios, inquietudes, etc., tienen que ser puesta por escrito a la oficina de la autoridad de vivienda.

Brenda Tesiero

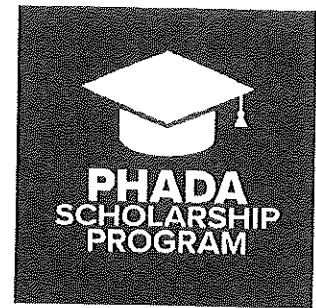
AHA



☒ Conventional Housing Program
Phone: (518) 842-2894 • Fax: (518) 842-9526

☐ Section 8 Rental Assistance Program
Phone: (518) 842-2907 • Fax: (518) 842-2973

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION



2020 PHADA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Scholarships for high school seniors living in public or assisted housing at a PHADA member agency

Applications are due to PHADA by:
January 31, 2020

Three Scholarships Will Be Awarded

Scholarship for Public Housing Agency of 10,000 or more	\$7,000
Scholarship for Public Housing Agency of 5,000 or more	\$5,000
Scholarship for Public Housing Agency of 1,000 or more	\$5,000

**Additional Essay Required*

For the latest information, visit: www.phada.org

REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST

Submit the following documents to the Executive Director of your housing authority. All documents must be typewritten in English. Please do not fold or staple documents.

☐ **1. APPLICATION**

Include the printed application (left panel) in the packet of materials that you submit to your Executive Director.

☐ **2. VERIFICATION PAGE**

- **Grade Point Average Verification** (must be completed by your school counselor)
- **Certification** (sign this portion of the document before submitting it to your Executive Director)

☐ **3. SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT**

You must provide an original and official copy of your high school transcript.

☐ **4. TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

You must submit one teacher or guidance counselor recommendation and one personal, NON-Family, recommendation.

☐ **5. ESSAY**

You must submit a typewritten essay in English addressing the following topic: How my public housing and high school experiences have influenced my life. (350–500 words)

☐ **Additional Essay for the Freedom & Civil Rights Scholarship**

To be considered for the Freedom & Civil Rights Scholarship, include an additional personal essay (350–500 words) demonstrating your efforts and achievements in furthering the values of the civil rights movement. The full list of requirements are on page 1.

☐ **6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a. Student must be recommended by the Executive Director of the housing authority in a letter signed by the Executive Director for the application to be considered complete.
- b. The Executive Director is responsible for verifying all application requirements.
- c. Application Fee – A \$25 non-refundable application fee is required and must be paid by the sponsoring housing authority. All proceeds from the fee will be added to the scholarship award. Check should be made payable to PHADA.
- d. Deadline – **All application materials must be received by PHADA no later than January 31, 2020.** No Faxes will be accepted.
- e. Local promotion of the scholarship program is the responsibility of the housing authority. Each housing authority may submit up to two applications.

Note: One scholarship awarded per student. Winner (and parent) will be required to sign a "Scholarship Agreement Contract" prior to receiving scholarship.

Applications must be completed in their entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

2020 PHADA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Applications due to PHADA by January 31, 2020. NO EXCEPTIONS!

All documents must be typewritten in English. No handwritten applications will be accepted.

Mail all required materials to: PHADA Scholarship Committee, 511 Capitol Court, NE, Washington, DC 20002–4937



PHADA'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In order to encourage academic excellence and community responsibility among high school students, PHADA has implemented a scholarship program for graduating seniors who are preparing to enter college. PHADA will award three (3) scholarships to deserving youth currently residing in a PHADA member agency.

Steve Bollinger Scholarship for Academic Excellence (One scholarship available: \$7,000)

Steve Bollinger (April 11, 1948–June 18, 1984) was a taskmaster to himself, a human dynamo to those who knew him. He was a natural leader, a person who could rally people around him with wit, satire, and vocal exercises. Steve's knowledge of and dedication to housing those in need was never absent, especially after he was appointed Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development at HUD. His experience at the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and the associations he had with colleagues, mayors, and others afforded him the opportunity to deal with the bureaucracy in a style that we strive to attain. To the members of PHADA, he was a friend. His belief in the housing profession motivated him to become a founding member of PHADA, for which he served as Vice President. He accomplished much in a short time and we are all thankful for his achievements. PHADA created this scholarship to memorialize Stephen J. Bollinger.

This scholarship will be formally presented at PHADA's Annual Convention and Exhibition on June 2, 2020, in Denver, CO. The winner will receive a trip for him/herself and one parent/guardian to attend the convention.

Freedom & Civil Rights Scholarship (One scholarship available: \$5,000)

Additional Essay Required (see below)

In 2005, PHADA's Board of Trustees met in Montgomery, AL. Inspired by historical sites they chose to give personal donations for the inception of a PHADA scholarship to honor the work of Rosa Parks and the achievements of the civil rights movement. PHADA's Annual Commissioners' Conference Golf Outing was established in 2007 to provide continuous funding to the Freedom Scholarship.

To be considered for the Freedom & Civil Rights Scholarship, include an additional personal essay (350–500 words) demonstrating your efforts and achievements in furthering the values of the civil rights movement. Explain why the cause is still relevant in communities today and how they relate to your educational goals. Include any relevant volunteer experiences and community involvement activities relating to advancing the cause of civil rights.

Nan McKay Scholarship for Community Involvement (One scholarship available: \$5,000)

Nan McKay has offered significant financial support to PHADA's scholarship program and has elected to reward one deserving youth with a \$5,000 scholarship. PHADA appreciates their commitment to serving the needs of public housing residents and the community.

The scholarship fund will be administered by the PHADA Scholarship Committee. The money will go directly to the school that the recipient will be attending. The school will deposit the money into the student's account. The money may only be used to pay for tuition, books, and activities directly related to the student's education. If the student discontinues his or her education, the unused portion of the scholarship will be returned to PHADA. For more information, contact PHADA at: 202-546-5445.

ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

Please complete checklist. All documents must be typewritten in English. Please do not fold or staple documents.

- ☐ **STATUS** – Applicant must be a high school senior and reside in a PHADA member agency owned or managed unit throughout his/her entire senior year. Public housing residents, Section 8 participants or other low-income housing residents are eligible, as long as the agency at which they reside is a PHADA member.
- ☐ **MINIMUM GRADE POINT AVERAGE** – Student must have at least a "B" average on his/her school's applicable scale during his/her high school career, cumulatively, to be considered for the scholarship. *Note: School counselor must complete the Grade Point Average Verification form on the verification page of this application.*

VERIFICATION PAGE

GRADE POINT AVERAGE VERIFICATION

(Must be completed by school counselor)

Counselor Name _____ Phone _____

Type of Grading Scale used by school (ex. 4 pt., 6 pt., 100 pt., etc.) _____

**Please convert GPA to 4.0 scale or 100 point system when completing the section below:*

9th Grade _____ 10th Grade _____ Cumulative GPA _____

12th Grade _____ 11th Grade _____

The student's official and original transcript must also be submitted with the application.

CERTIFICATION

(Must be signed by student and Executive Director)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Please verify all information is provided. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

I certify that all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further certify the application is complete and contains all items from the "Requirement Checklist," including the Housing Authority's non-refundable \$25 application fee.

Signature _____ *Student* Signature _____ *Executive Director*

Date _____ Date _____



2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

All documents must be typewritten in English. Please do not fold or staple documents.

Download an auto-fill PDF at: www.phada.org/Conferences-Education/PHADA-Scholarship-Program

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Grade in school _____ Graduation date _____

What is your desired Academic Major(s) (if any) _____

To which college(s) have you applied? _____

To which college(s) have you been accepted? _____

Summarize your academic achievements (i.e., scholarships, awards, etc.):

List extracurricular school activities in which you are currently participating (i.e., clubs, teams, etc.):

Indicate the community activities in which you are currently participating (i.e., church, community service, etc.):

Indicate extracurricular and community activities in which you have participated in the past:

List any hobbies or special interests:

Indicate any jobs which you are holding or have held in the past:

The housing authority must submit the application to PHADA. Thank you and good luck!

In addition to the above information, you must provide the housing authority Executive Director with the items indicated on the "Requirement Checklist" on the scholarship application packet.



NYSPHADA

2020 Scholarship Application



**A scholarship for high school seniors living in public or assisted housing
at a NYSPHADA member agency.**

**One scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$2,500.00
One runner-up will be awarded \$1,000.00.**

Applications are due to NYSPHADA by February 24, 2020.



Scholarship Program

In order to encourage academic excellence and community responsibility among high school students, NYSPHADA has implemented a scholarship program for graduating seniors who are preparing to enter higher level learning (defined as a 2-4 year college, trade school or formal certification program). NYSPHADA will award one (1) scholarship to a deserving youth currently residing in a NYSPHADA member agency.

This scholarship will be formally presented at NYSPHADA's Annual Conference and Exhibition on May 6, 2020 at the Turning Stone Casino & Resort in Verona, New York. The winner will receive travel accommodations for him/herself and one parent/guardian to attend the conference.

The scholarship fund will be administered by the NYSPHADA Scholarship Committee. The money will go directly to the school that the recipient will be attending. The school will deposit the money into the student's account. The money may only be used to pay for tuition, books, and activities directly related to the student's education. If the student discontinues his or her education, the unused portion of the scholarship will be returned to NYSPHADA.

Eligibility Checklist

Please complete checklist. All documents must be typewritten. Please do not fold or staple documents.

☐ **Status**

Applicant must be a **high school senior and reside in a NYSPHADA member agency** owned or managed unit throughout his/her entire senior year. Public Housing residents, Section 8 participants or other low-income housing residents are eligible, as long as the agency at which they reside is a NYSPHADA member.

☐ **Minimum Grade Point Average**

Student must have at least a "B" average on his/her school's applicable scale during his/her high school career, cumulatively, to be considered for the scholarship. (NOTE: School counselor must complete the Grade Point Average Verification form on the verification page of this application.)

For consideration of this scholarship, applications must be completed in their entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered.



Requirement Checklist

Submit the following documents to the Executive Director of your housing authority. All documents must be typewritten. Please do not fold or staple documents.

☐ **Application**

The application may be found on NYSPHADA's website at www.nysphada.org. On the homepage, click the NYSPHADA Scholarship Application link to download the application. Electronically complete the form, save it to your computer and print a copy. Include this printed application in the packet of materials that you submit to your Executive Director.

☐ **Verification Page** (included in this information packet)

- **Grade Point Average Verification** (must be completed by your school counselor)
- **Certification** (sign this portion of the document before submitting it to your Executive Director)

☐ **School Transcript**

You must provide an official and original high school transcript.

☐ **Two Letters of Reference**

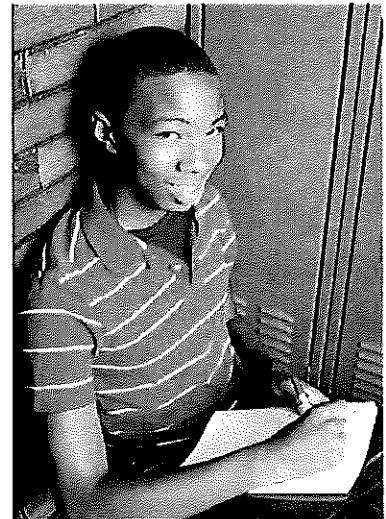
You must submit two (2) teacher reference letters.

☐ **Essay**

You must submit a 400-500 word typewritten essay addressing the following topic:
Identify a person, character in fiction or historical figure who has had a significant influence on you and describe that influence.

☐ **Executive Director Responsibilities**

- ☐ **a.** Student must be recommended by the Executive Director of the housing authority in a letter **signed** by the Executive Director for the application to be considered complete.
- ☐ **b.** The Executive Director is responsible for verifying all application requirements.
- ☐ **c. Application Fee** – A \$50.00 non-refundable application fee is required and must be paid by the sponsoring housing authority. All proceeds from the fee will be added to the scholarship award. Check should be made payable to NYSPHADA.
- ☐ **d. Deadline** – All application materials must be received by NYSPHADA no later than **February 24, 2020. NO EXCEPTIONS.** No faxes will be accepted.
- ☐ **e.** Local promotion of the scholarship program is the responsibility of the housing authority. Each housing authority may submit up to two applications.
- ☐ **f.** Housing Authority must be a NYSPHADA member in good standing with dues paid current.





Grade Point Average Verification

This section must be completed by school counselor.

Counselor Name _____ Phone _____

Type of Grading Scale used by school (ex. 4 pt., 6 pt., 100 pt., etc.) _____

*Please convert GPA to 4.0 scale or 100 point system when completing the section below:

9th Grade _____ 10th Grade _____ 11th Grade _____ 12th Grade _____

Cumulative GPA _____

**The student's official and original transcript must also be submitted with the application.*

Certification

Must be signed by student and Executive Director.

Executive Director: Please verify all information is provided.

Incomplete applications will be rejected.

I certify that all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further certify the application is complete and contains all items from the "Requirement Checklist," including the Housing Authority's non-refundable \$50 application fee.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Executive Director Signature _____ Date _____

The housing authority must submit the application to NYSPHADA.

I, _____, hereby allow NYSPHADA to print/publish any items covered within for purposes of acknowledging winners of the Scholarship Program.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

**2020 NYSPHADA Scholarship Program Applications due to
NYSPHADA by February 24, 2020. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**NYSPHADA**

2020 Scholarship Application

Mail all required materials to: NYSPHADA Scholarship Committee
c/o Ithaca Housing Authority
Attn: Brenda C. Westfall; Executive Director
798-800 S. Plain Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Years you have lived at present address _____ Date of Birth _____

Email Address _____ Currently in Grade _____ Graduation Date _____

Sponsoring Agency Name _____

Sponsoring Agency Address _____

Name of high school from which you expect to graduate _____

High School Address _____

What is your desired Academic Major (if any) _____

To which 2-4 year college, trade school or formal certification program have you applied?

School	Address	Status of Application (denied/accepted/pending, etc.)

Summarize your academic achievements (i.e., scholarships, awards, etc.)

--



List extracurricular school activities in which you are currently participating (i.e., clubs, teams, etc.)

Indicate the community activities in which you are currently participating (i.e., church, community service, etc.)

Indicate extracurricular and community activities in which you have participated in the past.

List any hobbies or special interests.

Indicate any jobs which you are holding or have held in the past.

Describe your objective in continuing your education beyond high school.
Relate this to any specific career interest you may have.

***In addition to the above information, you must provide the housing authority
Executive Director with the items indicated on the "Requirement Checklist."***

Thank you and Good Luck!