



**YWCA**  
**IS ON A**  
**MISSION**

eliminating racism  
empowering women **ywca**

## Josephine Marley Beckwith Future Leader Scholarship Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Career Goals: \_\_\_\_\_

### Application Requirements:

The following **MUST** be submitted with this **COMPLETED** and **SIGNED** application, **no exceptions**:

- 1) **TWO (2)** letters of recommendation.
- 2) An **OFFICIAL** academic transcript. OFFICIAL is a sealed, signature stamped envelope sent from the school/college or university. An electronic transcript is considered OFFICIAL if the intended party is the direct mail recipient. Reprints, rescanned, or forwarded emails are considered UNOFFICIAL.
- 3) A **TYPED 250 – 500 word essay** describing the following: **What efforts (policies, programs, etc.) would you make to help empower women, eliminate racism and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all?** Please make sure your name is on each page submitted. In your essay, please include the following to support your efforts:
  - a) Community Service and/or activities that support racial justice for women and/or girls
  - b) Leadership Experiences and/or Office positions
  - c) Extracurricular Activities
  - d) Employment (attached resume is optional)
  - e) High School Honors and Awards

**Note:** Only Two (2) renewable \$1000 Scholarship will be awarded and presented to the selected recipient upon proof of each year of enrollment. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or Hand deliver completed application packet in **one envelope** to: YWCA - JMBFL Selection Committee, 304 East Third Street, Alton, IL 62002-2406

**Deadline for submission: Feb 23, 2023, at 5 pm or MUST be postmarked by Feb 23, 2023.**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How do I apply for the JMBFL Scholarship?**

An application is mailed or emailed to the guidance office at *Alton, Civic Memorial, Collinsville, East Alton-Wood River, Edwardsville, Granite City, Highland, Madison, Marquette, Metro-East Lutheran, Mississippi Valley Christian, Roxana, and Triad* in November of each year.

Submit the completed application, two letters of recommendation, and an official transcript to the YWCA, 304 E. Third Street, Alton, IL 62002-2406 by Feb 23, 2023.

### **Where can I get an application?**

- [www.altonywca.com](http://www.altonywca.com)
- In your high school guidance counselor's office
- At the front desk of the YWCA of Alton; 304 E. Third Street; Alton IL 62002
- Request by email – [info@ywcaswil.org](mailto:info@ywcaswil.org)

### **What does the JMBFL Selection Committee look for when selecting recipients?**

JMBFL awardees are well-rounded students who are actively involved in their school and community. These leaders are passionate, service-oriented, and demonstrate a sustained commitment to bettering their community - they have an ambition to change something in the world for the better.

### **Is the scholarship need-based?**

No, the JMBFL Scholarship is achievement-based.

### **How can the scholarship be used?**

The scholarship check is mailed directly to the student upon proof of enrollment in an accredited post high school institution. The funds may be used as the recipient sees fit.

### **What is the application deadline for the JMBFL Award?**

Applications must be postmarked no later than Feb 23, 2023.

### **What does postmark mean?**

The application must be stamped as received by the post office on or before Feb 23, 2023, although it may be received by the Selection Committee on a later date.

### **How many awards will be given away?**

Two outstanding young women will be honored with a renewable \$1,000 scholarship at the annual **Women of Distinction** event.

### **Is the award Renewable?**

Yes, with proof of enrollment in an accredited post high school institution, continued community service work and volunteerism that is consistent with the mission of the YWCA and a minimum 2.5 GPA.

### **When will I find out if I received the award?**

The award recipient will be notified on or before March 23, 2023. Scholarships will be awarded and presented to the academic institutions upon proof of enrollment.

### **If I graduate mid-year [December] am I still eligible?**

Yes, any applicant that has completed seven semesters of high school courses is eligible.

## Tips:

- This is not a time to be humble! Make sure you give yourself credit where credit is due. So if you are involved with community organizations, school clubs, your church or any other kind of service/volunteering or other pursuits make sure to include **EVERYTHING** you have done so the JMBFL selection committee can see how awesome you are!
- Really focus on the things you've been involved in throughout high school. The JMBFL Award is committed to supporting and nurturing young women who demonstrate leadership, service, and community involvement, and you should do your best to show how you fit these criteria.
- Don't feel that any activity is too small or too insignificant - if you invested your time, mention it! You don't need to be involved in every activity imaginable to be a competitive candidate. It's all about quality not quantity.
- Be careful not to rush through the application. Take the time necessary to fill it out as thoroughly and accurately as possible to give the selection committee the clearest picture of who you are!
- Highlight what makes you unique. This application allows you to tell your story in a very limited amount of space. Take advantage of every spot and focus on what will make you stand out in a group of other brilliant applicants.
- During the application, utilize this opportunity to write down different activities that you've been a part of over the years. Include everything that you've done, no matter how small you think it may be!
- Don't wait until the night of the deadline to fill out this application! Do your homework beforehand. Good luck!

## Information to gather:

- An **official transcript** – you will need this to report the course level and grades that you have received since your freshman year in high school.
- The **name, email address and phone number** of your guidance counselor.
- A list of **school and non-school related clubs and organizations** in which you have participated since your freshman year and any corresponding leadership positions.
- A list of **honors and awards** that you received when participating in school and non-school related clubs and organizations and the level of each award (Local, State, Regional or National) since your freshman year.
- A list of **your volunteer organizations** with which you have served, the number of hours served with each and any awards and honors that you have received for your participation since freshman year.
- Any special projects or activities you have completed.

