



Urban League of Palm Beach County
Palm Beach County Center of Excellence



September 01, 2021

Once again, the Urban League of Palm Beach County is recruiting high achieving minority students for its Fall Induction into the National Achievers Society. The National Achievers Society is a prestigious National Honor Society that motivates students to pursue their goal of higher education and encourages their participation in cultural and academic activities. Since 2010, students who have graduated from Palm Beach County Center of Excellence have earned academic scholarships and attended some of the top universities in the country such as Stanford, MIT, and Yale. **The deadline to apply is September 30, 2021.**

Program Purpose:

- Encourage, recognize, and reinforce academic achievement among minority youth
- Increase the pool of college-bound minority students
- Enhance a student's self-esteem and educational motivation
- Energize adults to rededicate themselves to preparing children to meet the academic and job standards of the 21st Century

As part of the organization's efforts to increase the number of well-rounded, academically and culturally talented students who apply to the most exclusive colleges, achievers have the opportunity to participate in an array of programs such as:

- Attending cultural activities including ballet and theater productions
- Leadership trainings and professional development sessions
- SAT/ACT prep courses
- Meet and network with community leaders
- Community service projects, literacy activities, field trips, and academic competitions

Students are normally recommended by a school official, churches or community leaders. Applications can be mailed or dropped off to:

Urban League of Palm Beach County
National Achievers Society
1700 North Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33407

If you have any questions, please email Lana St. Hilaire at programs@ulpbc.org.

Thank you for your interest in National Achievers Society.

Sincerely,

Marie Sanches

Marie Sanches
Senior Vice President, Palm Beach County Center of Excellence



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About National Achievers Society

The National Achievers Society is formerly known as the McKnight Achievers Society. Founded in 1953, McKnight Achievers Society was established to identify and motivate historically disadvantaged minority students and ultimately increase the pool of students who are motivated and qualified to enter college. In 1985, the Centers of Excellence were established to continue with the mission. Ten centers operate throughout the State of Florida. The Centers' mission includes: a) assuming a more proactive stance in the education of youth; b) employing the development of a group achievement model for disadvantaged elementary and secondary students; and, c) increasing the pool of students who are prepared, motivated and qualified to enter higher education. For more information about National Achievers Society, visit fefonline.org.

National Achievers Society Eligibility Criteria

To be recommended for the National Achievers Society, the applicant must:

- Be a full-time student in a Palm Beach County private, public, or charter secondary school.
- Be enrolled in 6th through 11th grade at the time of the application.
- Earn grades of A's and B's. Students may earn a "C" in only one advanced class. Students with grades of D's or F's will not be considered.
- Not be in remedial classes. Students in remedial classes such as intensive reading or math are not eligible for NAS, although they may be eligible for other programs offered by the Urban League of Palm Beach County.
- Be sponsored by an adult in the state who agrees to serve as the "significant other" in the Achiever's life.
- Submit a Law of Life Essay, minimum of 200 words and maximum of 500 words.
- Submit two letters of recommendations, one of which must be from a school official.
- Attend the induction ceremony.

Membership Guidelines

Members of the National Achievers Society must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Maintain a minimum of 3.0 grade point average
- Participate in meetings
- Participate in at least one community services project
- Submit report cards every grading period
- Attend and participate in one induction ceremony each year
- Submit forms and requested information on time
- Adhere to all deadlines



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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Before submitting the National Achievers Society application, please verify by checking the box with an (X) that you have enclosed the following:

- Completed application, neatly typed or printed.
- Completed “Laws of Life Essay.”
- Copy of the most recent three (3) consecutive grading periods.
- Two (2) letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a school official such as a school principal, teacher, or a school counselor.

Please mail application to: Urban League of Palm Beach County
National Achievers Society
1700 N. Australian Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Application may also be scanned and emailed to: programs@ulpbc.org.



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NATIONAL ACHIEVERS SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY!

STUDENT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PARENT(S) NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

CELL: (____) _____ HOME: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____

MALE FEMALE AGE: _____ DOB: _____ GRADE: _____

H.S. GRADUATION YEAR: _____ INTENDED COLLEGE: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____ STUDENT # _____

How did you find out about NAS? _____

SPONSOR: Applicant must include that he or she is being sponsored by an adult in the state who agrees to serve as the “significant other” in the Achiever’s life. Sponsor will serve as a mentor.

SPONSOR’S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

CELL: (____) _____ HOME: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____

Annual Household Income

- \$0 - \$15,000 \$15,001 - \$25,000 \$25,001 - \$40,000 \$40,001 - \$60,000
 \$60,001 - \$75,000 \$75,001 - \$80,000 \$80,001 - \$100,000 over \$100,000

Total Number of people living in the household: _____

Does the family receive Public Assistance? Yes No If yes, what type: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT/RELEASE FORM

The Center of Excellence Program is a partnership with you, your child, and his/her church/community center and is designed to provide participants with educational assistance that may include tutoring, mentoring, skills building, and other training. Students also participate in community service projects, workshops, and field trips that are pertinent to their educational development. By signing below, you acknowledge the goals of the Program and grant permission for your child to participate and your child agrees to participate.

I hereby grant the Staff of the Center of Excellence Program permission to have access to my child’s educational records and demographic information and to forward same to the Florida Education Fund, Inc. its parent organization.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

FLORIDA EDUCATION FUND LAWS OF LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

PURPOSE: The *Laws of Life* are core values and ideals by which we live. Honesty, perseverance, and the Golden Rule all are examples of these universal “laws” that transcend religions, cultures, and national borders.

To be eligible for induction into the National Achievers Society (NAS), a potential inductee must complete and submit a *Laws of Life Essay* of **200 to 500 words (maximum)** to the center director. The *Laws of Life Essay* requirement offers a potential NAS member the opportunity to think about and communicate the principles that guide his or her life.

As you write your *Essay*, please select the quotation below that expresses a key value and/or ideal by which you live. Then explain why the chosen value/ideal is important to the way you live your life by discussing your experiences, lessons learned, and people who have served as living examples of your chosen value/ideal. Please choose **one** of the following six prompts:

In a world filled with hate, we must still dare to hope. In a world filled with anger, we must still dare to comfort. In a world filled with despair, we must still dare to dream. And in a world filled with distrust, we must still dare to believe. --Michael Jackson

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. --Martin Luther King, Jr.

Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world. --Nelson Mandela

You can't let your failures define you. You have to let your failures teach you. --President of the United States of America Barack Obama

Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today. --Malcolm X

Education must not only simply teach--it must teach life. --W. E. B. Dubois

Nothing ever comes to one that is worth having, except as a result of hard work. --Booker T. Washington

There are still many causes worth sacrificing for, so much history yet to be made. --First Lady Michelle Obama

Please note that the Laws of Life Essay you submit will be forwarded to the Florida Education Fund (FEF), the entity that sponsors Florida's Laws of Life Essay Contest, for consideration for possible prizes as a part of that Contest. If you do not want your Essay considered in the Contest, please sign this form below.

I do not want my Essay considered for prizes as part of the FEF's Laws of Life Essay Contest:

Signature: _____