



# Association for Hispanic School Administrators

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## 2018-2019 OFFICIAL RULES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

### I. MISSION

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The Association of Hispanic School Administrators (AHSA) Scholarship Fund provides scholarships for Hispanic seniors (2018 -2019) entering their first year of college in the Fall of 2019, and pursuing a degree in education to increase the number of Hispanic school administrators and teachers in the education profession.

Additionally, scholarships are awarded to Hispanic, Houston ISD professional employees seeking a masters or doctoral degree in education.

In order to protect the integrity of the AHSA Scholarship Fund, the following Official Rules ("Rules") shall bind all applicants.

Applicants are expected to enroll in a full academic course of study and attend an accredited college/university for the 2019-2020 academic year.

### II. ELIGIBILITY

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Student scholarship candidates must be:

- a) A Spring 2019 graduate from a Houston Independent School District (HISD) high school
- b) Applying/have applied for Fall 2019 admission to an accredited institution of higher education; and
- c) of Hispanic descent
- d) For Reyna Scholarship, must be female and "teen mom"

Higher education scholarship candidates must be:

- a) an employee of Houston ISD for 2 years and currently not in the capacity of administrator;
- b) a graduate with a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
- c) seeking a masters degree in a full academic course of study from an accredited college/university for the 2019-2020 academic year.
- d) of Hispanic descent

Teacher Assistant scholarship candidates must be:

- a) an employee of Houston ISD for 2 years;
- b) seeking an associates or bachelor degree in a full academic course of study from an accredited college/university for the 2019-2020 academic year.
- c) of Hispanic descent

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### III. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

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Scholarship candidates must submit the application form in its entirety prior to the application deadline. In submitting a scholarship application, candidates:

1. Agree to abide by the AHSA Scholarship Fund Official Rules;
2. Certify that they do not have any Conflicts of Interest as defined in the Official Rules. If any potential Conflicts of Interest are present, they must disclose them fully;
3. Certify that their answers are correct and truthful;
4. Agree that the data in their application may be shared with and evaluated by the AHSA Scholarship Fund and its Committees.

### IV. EVALUATION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

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Applications will be reviewed by the AHSA Scholarship Fund Awards Committee. While financial need will be strongly considered, awards may be based on a combination of factors including the following: academic, professional, or other accomplishments of the candidate; obstacles overcome by the candidate; contributions to the local community; the candidate's interest in pursuing a career in the education profession; and other personal characteristics that indicate the individual is a strong candidate to receive a scholarship and represent AHSA in a professional manner.

The AHSA Scholarship Fund may contact applicants if additional information is required but reserves the right to disqualify application packages from consideration if key information is not included or if guidelines are not adhered to accordingly.

### V. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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The Scholarship Candidate must disclose to the AHSA Scholarship Fund in writing any and all actual or potential conflicts of interest, including but not limited to those listed below, which may compromise the integrity of the scholarship.

AHSA Scholarship Fund may, in its sole discretion, refuse to accept any application, or cancel a scholarship award, where an actual or perceived conflict of interest exists.

Potential Conflicts of Interest include:

- a) Candidate is a close familial relative (spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or first cousin) of an Officer or Executive Board Member of AHSA or the AHSA Scholarship Fund;
- b) Candidate solicits or provides any compensation or other consideration in exchange for the Scholarship Award
- c) Candidate engages in any conduct that may reflect negatively upon the AHSA Scholarship Fund;
- d) Candidate is a current officer or Executive Board member of the AHSA Scholarship Fund or AHSA.

The AHSA Scholarship Fund Executive Board Members and Officers:

| <b>POSITION</b>        | <b>NAME</b>                |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| President              | Yolanda Rodriguez          |
| Treasurer              | Geovanny Ponce             |
| Secretary              | Rocio Saldana              |
| Awards Committee Chair | Rene Sanchez/Angelica Vega |
| Board Member           | Brenda Rangel              |
| Board Member           | Stephanie Square           |
| Board Member           | Siomara Saenz-Phillips     |
| Board Member           | Hilarion Martinez          |
| Board Member           |                            |

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#### **VI. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS/ RECIPIENTS**

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1. The AHSA Scholarship Fund shall award scholarships in its sole discretion. All decisions are final.
2. Awards may not be sold, transferred, or assigned and are not convertible to cash.
3. Recipients must be enrolled in an accredited institution of higher learning by August 1st of the award year.
4. Awards must be used in the year they are granted. No deferrals are allowed.

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#### **VII. FORFEITURE OF SCHOLARSHIP**

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Scholarship Candidates and Award Recipients who fail to comply with any scholarship policy or requirement will be subject to forfeiture of the AHSA Scholarship. AHSA reserves all rights under this policy, and all civil and criminal remedies, for any serious ethical violations including falsification of educational or eligibility information. All disciplinary decisions shall be made in the sole discretion of AHSA's Executive Board and Scholarship and Awards Committee, which are the only parties authorized to make decisions regarding disciplinary action, and their decision is final and binding on the recipient.