The Alachua-Central District
Lay Organization
African Methodist Episcopal Church

JOSEPH S. COPPOCK, JR. SCHOLARSHIP
Guidelines and Application

2026 – 2027 ACADEMIC YEAR
Deadline: Saturday, August 31, 2026

Nicholas Causey
East Conference President
Sharon Causey
Alachua-Central District President
Delphine Jackson
Alachua-Central District Director of Lay Activities
Juanita Miles-Hamilton
Scholarship Committee Chairperson

ALACHUA-CENTRAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE JOSEPH S. COPPOCK, JR. SCHOLARSHIP

The Joseph S. Coppock, Jr. Scholarship was established by the Alachua-Central District Lay Organization of the East Conference in support of the pursuit of academic excellence. Scholarships are being offered to individuals who are seeking assistance in furthering their education. The funds for this scholarship will be administered by the Alachua-Central District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

PURPOSE OF THIS SCHOLARSHIP

- To recognize and reward the educational excellence of high school graduates planning to attend and/or college students who currently attend an accredited post-secondary institution.

- To encourage young people to be actively involved in the Lay Organization of the AME Church.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Applicants must be either a 2026 high school graduate from a public or private school or currently enrolled in an accredited institution of higher learning with a GPA of at least 2.5.

SELECTION PROCESS

Recipients will be selected by a judging committee comprised of members of the Alachua-Central District Lay Organization. The committee will evaluate eligible students based on their academic record, financial need, and quality of the essay, reference letters, extracurricular activities and accomplishments. Winners will be announced by the Scholarship Committee at the site of the Annual Convention. All decisions by the committee are final. No material will be returned. **Applications not submitted in their entirety will not be processed**.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application (must be typed)
- A current official High School transcript of grades in a sealed school envelope. If college sophomore or higher, applicant must send the committee an official transcript from the college of the school attending. **(Official transcripts may be scanned as a pdf if the seal appears on the transcript).**
- Applicants must submit an essay (300-500 words) that entails the below four elements. The essay must be double-spaced and typed or word processed.
  (1) Your long-range goals
  (2) Community and Church involvement
  (3) Challenges you have faced
  (4) How you responded to your challenges
  (NOTE: Essay should include all four elements)
- A minimum of two (2) letters of recommendation (one letter must be from a school official who is familiar with the student's academic performance and potential). Letters may include pastors, local lay presidents, church school teachers, high school teachers, etc. **(Letters from relatives are not acceptable)**
- Two (2) photographs, business attire
- A Letter of Acceptance from the school attending. (High School Graduates)
- All materials must be submitted to the **Local Lay President**, who in turn will submit to the **Scholarship Committee** by the deadline in order to be considered. Direct all questions to the email address alachuacentraldistrictlay@gmail.com.

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ALACHUA-CENTRAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION

JOSEPH S. COPPOCK, JR. SCHOLARSHIP

Date: ____/____/_____ **High School Graduate☐ College Student☐**

PERSONAL DATA

Name:_____

Address:_____

City/State/Zip:

Home Phone: Mobile Phone:

Email Address:

Date of Birth: ☐ Male ☐ Female

CHURCH INFORMATION

Church Membership:_____

Address:_____

Telephone Number: _____ Email Address:_____

Local Lay President:_____

Pastor:_____

CHURCH PARTICIPATION

(List local Church, District, Conference, and Episcopal involvement (attach additional paper, if needed)

_____

_____

_____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

High School/Post Secondary Institution:_____

High School/Post Secondary Institution Address:_____

_____

Telephone Number:_____

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT (Attach Additional Page(s) if needed)

_____

_____

_____

College/University you plan to attend or currently attending_____

Trade School you plan to attend or currently attending_____

Intended major course of study and/or career goal_____

_____

Honors/Awards (attach additional pages(s) if needed_____

_____

_____

Cumulative Grade Point Average (scale 4.0 or equivalent)_____

COMMUNITY SERVICE (Attach Additional Page(s) if needed)

_____

_____

_____

_____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian:_____ Relationship:_____

Parent/Guardian's Signature_____ Date:_____

Parent/Guardian's Telephone Number_____

Parent/Guardian's Email Address_____

Scholarship Applicant: I have reviewed the application carefully to ensure that all information is verified to be valid and complete.

Signature - Scholarship Applicant_____ Date:_____

Scholarship Applicant (Print Name)_____

Applicant's Check List

- ○ Completed application
- ○ Current unofficial high school transcript
- ○ Essay (300-500 words)
- ○ Three (3) letters of recommendation
- ○ Two (2) photographs, business attire
- ○ Letter of Acceptance
- ○ Mail all materials in the same packet
- ○ District's Deadline: August 31, 2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Juanita Miles-Hamilton, Chairperson (352) 538-6502

Ms. Delphine Jackson, Director of Lay Activities

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED