



Dear Scholarship Applicant:

Thank you for showing interest in applying for the Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship. This year's scholarship theme is **The Spirit of Unity**.

Please complete the entire application according to the application instructions.

REMEMBER, FOR YOUR APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED, IT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY July 8th, 2023. There are three (3) ways to submit your application.

Type of submittal	
In person	Complete the application typed or black ink, place it in a sealed envelope, write: 'Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Committee' on it and leave at the Church Business Office or with church personnel.
Email/Upload	Download the application by going to: www.ricevillechurch.org Save all documents, attached and forward them to this email: To: inbox@ricevillechurch.org Subject: JDJ Scholarship Application
Physical mail	Complete the application, attach all necessary documents, and mail to: Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church ATTN: JDJ Scholarship Committee 11539 South Gessner Road Houston, TX 77071

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Joseph Parks (jesp@ricevillechurch.org) or Sis. Kimberly Lane (riceville2015@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Committee

JOE DEAN JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The **Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Fund** is named in honor of the former Pastor of the Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church (Houston, Texas). The highly esteemed and respected, Rev. Joe Dean Johnson served as Pastor of the Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church for forty-two (42) years. Along with his Christian beliefs, he believed that our young people should pursue higher education. He stressed the value of having high moral standards, Christian principles, and being ethical in our relationships with others. His favorite Scripture was the **40th chapter of the book of Isaiah, verse 31.**

The objective of the Scholarship Fund is to give money to high school graduates entering college or a qualifying school for educational expenses such as tuition, books, and other approved fees.

The Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Committee believes in rewarding Riceville graduating seniors for their academic, service and leadership excellence. To do so, scholarships are granted to qualified achievers who have demonstrated a high commitment to the standards set by the Committee.

All scholarships are funded by church donations, individual and group fund raising activities. Donations and gifts are used to award scholarships, and as such are subject to change every year. Three scholarships are to be awarded each year; but the amount of each scholarship is based upon the funds available to the Scholarship Committee at the end of school of the current year.

Scholarships are granted to High School Graduates only after being accepted by a certified school and will be awarded in August. Scholarships are granted to active members who have been a member of Riceville for a minimum of one year. Evaluation is based upon numerous factors including, writing an essay, academic honors and recognition, current GPA, community service, involvement in church ministries, leadership experiences and other accomplishments pertinent to Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church.

Key dates:

- Applications available: **May 21st, 2023**
- Application closes: **July 8th, 2023**
- Award Date: **August 20th, 2023**

Awards:

- 1st \$1,500.00
- 2nd \$1,000.00
- 3rd \$ 500.00

Eligibility: All students who have submitted a Scholarship Application by **July 8th, 2023**, are eligible for 2023 scholarship consideration. Scholarship applications **must be submitted** to the JDJ Scholarship Committee before **July 8th, 2023**, for the committee to verify the completion of documents and give the applicant time to make updates if needed. Early application submittal is highly recommended. Any applications received after this date will not be considered. Applicants must show written proof (i.e., acceptance letter) that they have been accepted by an accredited academic or trade school.

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of:

- Applicants be must an active member of Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church in good standing for a minimum of **one year**.
- Academic achievement with a 2.5 GPA or higher
- Involvement in youth and church ministries
- Community service
- Personal statement of goals and aspirations
- Written essay

Please Note: Providing false information on application is subject to forfeiture. All checks will be remitted directly to the school. Therefore, please provide the Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Committee with the following information.

1. Proof of Enrollment
2. Where to send the check (Name of University, College, or Vocational School Bursar's office)
3. Name of College or University
4. Address (City, State and Zip Code)

Please send the above information to:

Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Committee
Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church
11539 S. Gessner Road
Houston, Texas 77071

Please answer the following questions in three hundred (300) words or less, and if needed, please use a separate sheet of paper, and attach to application.

Briefly reflect your personal point of view on your most significant challenge or accomplishment and its value to your life.

Briefly explain what your professional goals are after graduation.

List your extracurricular, community or volunteer activities. Please include any Riceville Church ministries.

Essay Question

All essays must be five hundred (500) words, typed, and double-spaced using 12- Times Roman font. Please choose one of the following topics:

Topic: “The Witness of Unity”

Scripture: *“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” John 17:20-21 ESV*

In this particular passage, we see Jesus praying for believers who will exist long after He and His 12 disciples are no longer here on earth. His prayer is that we as believers would be unified as He and The Father (God) are unified. He also says that this **unity would be a witness** to the world and cause the world to **believe** that He (Jesus Christ) was sent to the world by God. For this essay topic, you are to write on why you think Jesus said unity in the church would cause the world to believe in Him. **What impact and/or witness does the spirit of unity have on the world and why?**

Topic: “The Appeal for Unity”

Scripture: *“I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.” 1 Corinthians 1:10 ESV*

In this particular scripture, the Apostle Paul was writing to a church who had a number of differences amongst them. These differences turned into divisions amidst the church, and these divisions turned into dissention amongst one another. When Paul became aware of this, he **“appealed”** (begged) the Corinthian Church to stop having so many divisions and disagreements and consequential fights amongst themselves. He also pleads with them that they not maintain their differences, but grow to be of the “same mind and the same judgment.” For this essay topic, you are to write about why you think Paul sincerely begged for these people to stop fighting and reflect a **spirit of unity**. **You are also to share your opinions and thoughts about what you think it means to be “in the same mind and of the same judgment.”**



Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church – 11539 South Gessner Road, Houston, TX 77071

JOE DEAN JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Application Instructions

Please complete the following application information. Type or print legibly your answers in black ink. If the application is illegible, it will be returned to you with no exceptions.

Personal Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: (_____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____

List the name and address of the applicant's Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s). If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Academic Information

Current School: _____ No. of Years Attended: _____

I will attend the following school in the Fall of 2023:

List the names of any other high schools you may have attended. (Please include the years you attended).

1. _____ From: _____ To: _____

2. _____ From: _____ To: _____

NOTE: Proof of acceptance or current enrollment from the above school is required prior to consideration of application. Attach proof of GPA with your most recent school transcript is required.

Grade Point Average (GPA, on a scale of 4.0): _____

Have you ever applied for other scholarships? _____

Do you have any other scholarship offers? _____

What is your planned graduation major? _____

What are your career goals after graduation? _____

How will this scholarship help you meet your educational and career goals? _____

Please provide two (2) Character Letter References (*one from your current school, this person can be a guidance counselor, advisor, teacher, principal, dean; etc. and one from church: youth minister, deacon, deaconess, parent volunteer- cannot be a relative of the applicant*). Please attach them along with your application.

Application Check List

The following items must be attached to this application in order for the application to be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee. Your application will be returned to you if these are not attached to the application. (NO EXCEPTIONS).

Circle “Yes” or “No” to be sure you have attached all items as required:

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | Completed application for (typed or printed legibly). |
| Yes | No | Statement of application to Scholarship Committee on career goals. |
| Yes | No | Two (2) Character references in the form of a letter of recommendation. |
| Yes | No | Completed essay (double-spaced typed or legibly printed/typed on one of the topics provided.) |
| Yes | No | Signed application. |

Please sign your initials next to each of the statements and your signature.

_____ I do hereby affirm that all the above-stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

_____ I do hereby understand I will not submit this application without all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this scholarship.

Scholarship Applicant’s Signature: _____

Scholarship Applicant’s Printed Name: _____

Date signed: _____

Thank you for your submitted application to the Joe Dean Johnson Scholarship Committee.