



Saint Croix Foundation

Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Fund Application Guidelines

St. Croix Foundation for Community Development was established in 1990 to improve the quality of life for St. Croix residents. The Foundation administers the Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Fund, which awards scholarships to seniors/incoming freshmen desiring to further their studies at an institution of higher education.

Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Fund Guidelines

The Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Fund was established by Junior Gaspard in honor of his grandparents, Patrick and Amelia Williams, whose work ethic, determination, and expectation of excellence led to educational opportunities for multiple generations. The Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Scholarship's goal is to provide opportunities to youth who have met obstacles but persevere despite these challenges and see educational pursuit as a means to achieving personal/professional success that can then be shared with the next generation.

Award Cycle: The Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Fund will award two (2) scholarships per year at a maximum of \$5,000 per award. Applications may be submitted to the Foundation beginning May 1 of each calendar year; applications must be submitted by June 15. Applicants will receive notice by July 16th as to the status of their application. *All applications are reviewed by the Foundation's Grants Review Committee.*

Qualifications: To qualify for a Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Award, applicants must:

- ✓ Reside on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
- ✓ Be a senior in a St. Croix public high school or incoming freshman matriculating into college/university from a public high school
- ✓ Have attended a public junior high school on St. Croix
- ✓ Provide proof of acceptance to an accredited college/university
- ✓ Demonstrate specific, long-term goals and financial need
- ✓ Indicate and maintain a GPA of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale

Review Process: All applicants that satisfy the above requirements are considered with priority given to applications that demonstrate:

- ✓ Meaningful community service/volunteering or work experience (reflected in letters of reference and personal statements)
- ✓ Participation in extra-curricular activities (e.g. clubs, after school programs, etc.) or description of socioeconomic circumstances that prevented the ability to join

Attachments: This completed application **MUST INCLUDE** (*clear copies acceptable):

- _____ Birth or baptismal certificate
- _____ High school and junior high school transcript/report card
- _____ Acceptance letter to college/university
- _____ Two letters of reference (one must be an academic reference; professional reference also preferred)
- _____ Two (2) 500-word essays: (1) describing a time the applicant showed perseverance and overcame adversity and how this experience shaped the person he/she is today; and one (1) describing the greatest impacts that obtaining a college/university degree will have on the applicant's life

This completed application and **all** the above documentation should be mailed or delivered to:

St. Croix Foundation: Patrick and Amelia Williams Opportunity Fund
1023 Market, 2nd Floor
Christiansted, USVI 00820

For additional information, please contact the Foundation at 340-773-9898.