



2160 41st Avenue | Capitola, CA 95010 | Tel: 831.454.5918 | Fax: 831.469.3712

## New Horizons Scholarship Program

The New Horizons Scholarship program is designed to support academic achievement and economic mobility of individuals currently receiving housing assistance from the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz. Selected applicants will be awarded a minimum \$1000 scholarship to help meet their educational goals and increase economic mobility.

### ELIGIBILITY

Scholarship applicants must meet each of the following requirements.

- Must be a member of a household that is currently receiving housing assistance from Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz
- Must be 18 years or older or a high school senior
- Must be seeking or enrolled in higher education from a qualifying educational institution or program
- Must submit a complete application and all required supplemental material by the application due date

### QUALIFYING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROGRAMS

- Four-year University or State College
- Two-year Community or City College
- Graduate School
- Technical/Vocational School/Program
- Certificate Program
- Post Graduate Program

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must submit a completed New Horizons Scholarship Program application, along with all the items listed on the attached Application Material Checklist, including an essay, proof of registration/enrollment (refer to Application Material Checklist), and a letter of recommendation from a non-family member. The application and all documents must be submitted at the same time. Applicants may also provide evidence of volunteer service or community engagement **that occurred within the past 12 months** to receive bonus points for their application.

Applications must be submitted by the due date via one of the following methods

- email to [housing@hacosantacruz.org](mailto:housing@hacosantacruz.org) – must include “New Horizons Scholarship Application” in the subject line.
- mail to or drop off at the Housing Authority office  
Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz  
Attention: New Horizons Scholarship Program  
2160 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Capitola, CA 95010

All attachments must be completed for the application to be considered for award.

### APPLICATION DUE DATE:

The application due date for the New Horizons Scholarship program is **May 31, 2024**

**APPLICATION DUE DATE: MAY 31, 2024**

APPLICATION MATERIAL CHECKLIST

1.  **Completed Application: 2024**
2.  **Essay:** Two-page (maximum length) essay. We strongly recommend the essay be typed. If handwritten, must be written in blue or black ink and legible. Handwritten essays that are unreadable may disqualify applicant.

Essay topic: Please describe your educational and long-term goals, how you plan to achieve your educational goals, how achievement of your educational goals will provide you new opportunities and help you meet your long-term goals, and how a New Horizons Scholarship will help you achieve this.

3.  **Letter of Recommendation:** Submit a letter of recommendation from
  1. an academic professional (teacher, college professor, academic advisor or counselor, principle),
  2. employer or direct supervisor,
  3. co-worker, community volunteer supervisor or athletic coach,
  4. personal acquaintance or friend.

*Note: You will receive points in the application scoring process for the type and content of the letter you submit. Please advise the person who is writing the letter to talk about your outstanding qualities and how they help you accomplish your goals.*

4.  **Proof of Registration/Enrollment:** Submit proof of registration/enrollment for fall 2024 with application if available. If not available at the time you submit your application and you are selected to receive a scholarship, proof is required no later than thirty (30) days after you are notified you have been selected.
5.  **Proof of Volunteer Service or Community Engagement:** Not required but may be considered in application review process. Volunteer activity must be within the previous 12 months to be considered. Please do not submit volunteer activities performed more than 12 months ago.



Applicant's First & Last Name

NEW HORIZONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
2024 APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Applicant Name:

Form line for Applicant Name with labels: First, Middle, Last

Mailing Address (if you are selected, where would you like the award/check to be mailed to?):

Form line for Mailing Address with labels: Street, Apt., City, State, Zip

Email (one that you check regularly):

Telephone: Cell: ( ) other: ( )

Date of Birth: / / Gender: [ ] Female [ ] Male [ ] Other

Race: Check all that apply (Optional)

- [ ] African American/Black [ ] Hispanic/Latino(a) [ ] White
[ ] Asian/Pacific Islander [ ] Native American/Alaska Native [ ] Other

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Applicant was a previous awardee of the New Horizons Scholarship:

[ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, year(s):

Applicant is a Veteran? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Applicant is the first person in family to attend college. [ ] Yes [ ] No

Which of these applies to you? (select only one)

- [ ] I am receiving housing assistance from HACSC1
[ ] I am a resident of a HACSC owned or managed property.

Name of Property:

1 Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz

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Applicant's First & Last Name

**EDUCATIONAL PLANS:**

Are you currently attending or planning to attend one of the following during the 2024/2025 academic year?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four-year University or State College | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical/Vocational School/Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two-year Community or City College    | <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate Program                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate School                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Post graduate program               |

University/College /School/Program applicant plans to attend in fall of 2024:

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Applicant is applying as (check one):  Full-Time  Part-Time  
Number of units for which you will enroll: Fall: \_\_\_\_\_ Spring: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected/declared major: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated career goal: \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about the New Horizons Scholarship Program?**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Flyer/postcard/mailer   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend/Family             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____             |

**COMPLETED APPLICATION AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS DUE BY:**

**May 31, 2024**

**OPTION 1:** Via mail postmarked by due date or drop off at the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz

Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz  
Attention: New Horizons Scholarship Program  
2160 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Capitola, CA 95010

**OPTION 2:** Submit to [housing@hacosantacruz.org](mailto:housing@hacosantacruz.org). You must write "New Horizons Scholarship Application" in the email subject line.

**APPLICANT CERTIFICATION:**

I certify that the answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize investigation of all statements contained in this application as may be necessary to determine my eligibility for the New Horizons Scholarship.

I have read and understand the policies of the New Horizons Scholarship Program and will provide all requested materials in a timely fashion should I be selected as a scholarship recipient. I understand that recipients who fail to abide by the policies of the New Horizons Scholarship Program will forfeit their award and be responsible for repayment of any distributed scholarship monies.



Signature:	Date:
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**Statement of Policies**

**THIS PAGE IS FOR YOUR RECORDS**

**1. Application:**

- a. All applications must be complete, including necessary signature, and all required supplemental materials.
- b. Supplemental materials must be attached or indicated that they are being sent by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party (recommendations, etc.).
- c. Any application that is incomplete or missing appropriate submittals may be disqualified.
- d. Applications must be submitted to the Housing Authority postmarked no later than the stated due date.

**2. Review and Selection:**

- a. Recipients will be notified of their selection status in writing by July 31.
- b. The Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz will ensure that scholarship recipients are selected without regard to race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, marital status, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

**3. Scholarship Funds:**

- a. Scholarships may only be awarded to those who meet the eligibility requirements and have submitted a complete application with all required attachments.
- b. Scholarship awards will be paid directly to the scholarship awardee and may be used for expenses relating to their education (recognizing the broad scope of expenses that can impact the accessibility of higher education).
- c. It shall be understood that these scholarships in themselves will not be sufficient to cover any or all the gaps a student may be experiencing in meeting expenses to attend a post-secondary institution or program and that they are meant to help alleviate the shortfalls a student may be facing.
- d. No scholarship shall be awarded for a period in excess of one academic year.
- e. Applicants and recipients are eligible to reapply the following year so long as they meet all eligibility requirements for that year and funding is available.

**4. Forfeiture of Scholarships:**

- a. Failure to provide the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz with verification of enrollment within thirty (30) days of receipt of notification of selection shall result in forfeiture of scholarship.
- b. Recipients of New Horizons scholarships shall forfeit their scholarship if they leave school before completion of their first or current semester and shall repay award for applicable award year.