



Brown v. Board of Education SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Pursuant to § 30-231.1 et seq., Code of Virginia

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program was established in 2005 in accordance with § 30-231.1 of the Code of Virginia to provide free education to students who were denied education in the public schools of Virginia between 1954 and 1964 when, in defiance of the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation ruling, several cities and counties closed their schools.

2023-2024 Scholarships

In the 2023-2024 academic year, three students were awarded scholarships through the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program, and funds were disbursed for both students. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) disbursed funds accordingly:

	Undergraduate (Two Students)
Virginia Western Community College	\$2,068.00
Longwood University	\$9,533.00
	Graduate (One Student)
Liberty University	\$2,341.00
Total Awards	\$13,942.0

By the end of the 2023–2024 academic year, the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Fund had awarded in total \$1,454,957.63 to 119 individual students over the course of 19 years, with \$1,876,286.85 remaining in the fund's balance.

2024–2025 Scholarship Expansion

During the 2023 Regular Session, the General Assembly passed HB 1419 (Kory, 2023) and identical SB 1498 (McClellan, 2023), expanding eligibility for the scholarship program to descendants of anyone who was eligible for the scholarship under the scholarship's original criteria. HB 1419 and SB 1498 included "lineal and collateral" descendants in the definition of "eligible student" for the purposes of the scholarship program, which includes children and grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews of any generation.

The Committee determined that it would implement the program expansion beginning with the 2024–2025 academic year.

2024–2025 Scholarships

The Committee awarded scholarships to thirty-one students for the 2024–2025 academic year.

Congressionally Directed Spending Grant Application

The Committee sent a letter of support for an application for a Congressionally Directed Spending grant to Senators Kaine and Warner. The grant, if approved, would bring \$500,000 in new funding to the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Fund and would support the program's eligibility expansion.

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