

2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. &
The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation

ABOUT US

The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation empowers at-risk communities by delivering transformative resources and programs that forge strong families. We collaborate with national and local partners to provide vital scholarships, immersive college bus tours, and impactful workshops focusing on responsibility, leadership, and entrepreneurship. By cultivating these essential skills, we equip youth to break cycles of disadvantage and realize their full potential.

Fueled by strategic fundraising and sponsorship, the Foundation directly invests in the future of deserving high school students. This work honors the extraordinary legacy of George Biddle Kelley, a Troy, NY native and son of a fugitive slave. Kelley defied formidable odds to become a Cornell-educated civil engineer, a founding member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and the first African American engineer registered in New York State. More importantly, he was a tireless advocate for his community and a champion of racial harmony. His life embodies the Alpha Phi Alpha ideals of 'Manly Deeds, Scholarship, and Love for All Mankind,' principles that drive the Foundation's commitment to creating lasting change.

The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation builds stronger families in at-risk communities through targeted programs and resources. We provide scholarships, college bus tours, and leadership workshops, empowering youth with the tools for success.

Through dedicated fundraising, we expand opportunities for deserving students, honoring the legacy of George Biddle Kelley. Born into adversity, Kelley became a pioneering engineer, a founder of Alpha Phi Alpha, and a champion for his community. His commitment to scholarship, service, and equality inspires our mission to create pathways to a brighter future.



GBKFoundation@gmail.com



(518)360-2610



GBKFOUNDATION.org



[@GBKFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/GBKFoundation)

GEORGE BIDDLE KELLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

2026 Scholarship Application Suite

Program Overview:

The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation is the charitable arm of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Beta Pi Lambda Chapter. The Foundation was created under the principles of providing service and advocacy for communities in the Capital District. Scholarship, and love for all mankind are the seeds of our “Go To High School, Go To College” program, which supports this scholarship. Developed in the 1950s, the George Biddle Kelley Scholarship aims to award and acknowledge financially disadvantaged and underserved students from the Capital District, who are committed to the values of scholarship, and improving the lives of others in the community.

Available Scholarships: Applicants may apply for the General Scholarship and may be eligible for one of the additional specific awards:

- George Biddle Kelley General Scholarship
- Dr. Elmer L. Green Scholarship for the Physical Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, etc.)
- Leon C. Nelson Scholarship for the Social Sciences (Sociology, Economics, Political Science, etc.)
- Dr. Twitty J. Styles Scholarship for the Biological Sciences (Biology, Microbiology, Immunology, etc.)

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible for this one-time scholarship award, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Be a male from a traditionally underrepresented community in the Capital District
- Be a current candidate for graduation from an accredited public or private high school in the Capital District
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (or 83 average)
- Have applied to, and/or been accepted into, a degree program at an accredited four-year college or university
- Submit a completed application – **All participants must complete the General Scholarship Application (Part I)**

Applications will be reviewed and considered based upon but not limited to the following criteria: documented financial need, living or working in diverse environments, exceptional leadership skills, scholarship, and a commitment to community service.

Application Process:

Submission of a completed **George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation Scholarship Application** consisting of:

- General information cover sheet
- Signed consent page by both the student and a parent or legal guardian
- 400-500 word typed essay – Please follow the included essay guidelines
- Official school transcript in a sealed envelope
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation

The Chair of the Scholarship Committee will contact scholarship finalists to participate in an interview.

All items should be submitted electronically to gbkfoundation@gmail.com (subject: ATTN: Scholarship Committee) or mailed in an envelope postmarked no later than **Friday, May 29, 2026** to:

**George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 14692, Albany, NY 12212**

For additional information or questions, please call 518-360-2610 or email gbkfoundation@gmail.com

GEORGE B. KELLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

P.O. Box 14692 · Albany, New York · 12212

Scholarship Application

Deadline: Friday, May 29, 2026

- Application for: GBK General Scholarship (Part I only) GBK Elmer L. Green Scholarship (Parts I & II)
- GBK Leon C. Nelson Scholarship (Parts I & III) GBK Twitty J. Styles Scholarship (Parts I & IV)

PART I: GBK GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP (REQUIRED)

Name: _____

Address: _____ Preferred Phone Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Birth Date: _____

Name of High School: _____ City: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Counselor's Name: _____

Hobbies and Interests: _____

High School Cumulative GPA/Average: _____

SAT score: Math _____ Reading/Writing _____ / ACT score: _____

Prospective Occupation or Field (Optional): _____

High School Graduation Date: _____

College/University of Interest to you	Applied? (Y/N)	Accepted? (Y/N/Unknown)	Full Time Enrollment? (Y/N)

Household Income:

- Less than \$20,000
- \$20,000 - \$50,000
- \$50,000 - \$100,00
- More than \$100,000

How did you hear about this scholarship? (Select one)

- School Counselor/Advisor
- Social Media (Instagram or Facebook)
- Teacher/Professor
- Friend/Family Member
- Other (Please specify: _____)

Activities/Leadership/Work Experience

Please attach a current resume or list below your school activities, making note of all leadership positions, as well as awards and honors you have received. Community service includes any time donated to community, church or other organizations. If necessary, you may use additional 8 1/2" x 11" pages to complete your responses.

School Activity	Grade	Hours per Week	Leadership Role
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	_____	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	_____	_____

Honors/ Awards (Please indicate year received)

_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12

Work Experience

Employer	Position Held	Employment Dates
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Community Service

Organizations	Duties	Dates
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Essay Guidelines

The 2026 George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation Scholarship essay subject is “**Future Contributions to My Community and Its Development.**” The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation is strongly invested in the fundamentals of community involvement and advocacy. An important criterion for selecting the scholarship recipient is your potential to contribute to your community. To assist the selection committee, please outline how you will contribute to your community during and after your collegiate experience. In your essay clearly define your community, what you consider to be its greatest needs / challenges and present your plan for meeting those needs. Please use the space provided on the next page to write your essay.

The following are guidelines to assist you with developing your essay. Please follow the guidelines as written.

- The essay should be 400-500 words typed. Essays will not be returned.
- Your essay should focus on your own view of the status of your community and must describe what role you will play in its development.
- Your essay will be judged on:
 - a. **Creative content** – Did the applicant utilize a unique perspective or point of view?
 - b. **Idea Development & Focus** – Was the idea developed to its fullest extent? Was the essay coherent and rational? Did the applicant remain focused?
 - c. **Writing Style** – Includes format, spelling, punctuation, grammatical and typographical errors.
Any grammatical or spelling errors will dramatically reduce your score.

Student Name _____

George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation Scholarship Essay

[Allow the entire page single spaced]

Student Name _____

PART IV: Dr. Twitty J. Styles Scholarship Addendum

For the Dr. Twitty J. Styles Scholarship please respond to the following question

1. Current developments in genome research have possible implications for human genome engineering. Please explain what the possible positive and negative outcomes those developments may portend. **[250 words]**

Student Name _____

2026 GBK Scholarship Application Consent Form

I hereby submit my application to the George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation and certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Student Applicant Name (Print)

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Date

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. & THE GEORGE BIDDLE KELLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION



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