**New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church**

**Deacon Eddie Thompson, Sr.**

**Collegiate Scholarship Fund**

**Scholarship Policy and Guidelines**

**General Principles:**

These general principles are to be used for all scholarship funds held by New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church (also hereinafter referred to as “New Mount Zion” or “Church”). In this document, “Scholarship” refers to the Deacon Eddie Thompson, Sr. Collegiate Scholarship.

The purpose of these scholarships is to assist recipients with their college education.

Scholarship awards are not intended to cover the full cost of school for any applicant.

The Church Scholarship Committee is to be established consisting of members of New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church. The Committee may be ratified annually. The 2022 committee consists of the following members of New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church:

1. Crystal L. Welch, President
2. Malcolm Dodd, Vice President
3. Dr. Juanita Taylor
4. Dr. Dolores Wright
5. Dr. Esther McCoy
6. Deacon Sylvester Ford
7. Dr. Ashley Blackwell
8. Sister Shurla Mance
9. Rep. Bo Brown

**Principles Guiding Awards for Specific Scholarship Funds:**

New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church’s collegiate scholarship is in memory of Deacon Eddie Thompson, Sr. This scholarship may be used for any legitimate college education expenses including tuition, books, and travel. This scholarship will only be awarded to full-time students. This award may be paid directly to the student.

This scholarship can only be awarded to a high school graduate each year.

**Housekeeping Procedures:** As early as possible in the New Year, the members of the Scholarship Committee should be made aware of the policy and guidelines, of the amount of funds available, and whether there are any restrictions on the amount available for the current year. The committee will make this information available to the Church Board.

A first meeting of the committee should be held as early as possible in the New Year either in person or by electronic media.

Forms and applications should be made available to interested students by January 15th. Scholarship Committee will make applications available to high school seniors. This deadline may be amended by the committee due to exceptional circumstances.

Complete applications should be submitted online or returned to the church office by June 30th.

The Scholarship Committee then meets to review the applications, will meet informally with student applicant(s), and then make their decision.

The recipient(s) of the scholarship should be informed of the Committee’s decision by August 1st.

Plans need to be made at this time for the acknowledgment of the recipients during a worship service.

It’s the responsibility of the recipient to inform the church of which institution he/she plans to attend if he/she is awarded the Scholarship, when he/she is registered and is in attendance.

**Selection Criteria and Recommendations:**

The criteria include the following:

• A completed application including application form, three letters of recommendation, a personal essay, proof and high school graduation and college registration, and a high school GPA of at least 2.8.

• The applicant must have an active membership with New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

The Scholarship in the amount of $2,000 will be awarded annually to one high school graduate who is a member of New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

**Instructions for Applicant:**

1. Read the guidelines carefully.

2. Submit a personal statement/essay of 400 words maximum that reflects your goals, motivation, reasons why you should be awarded the scholarship and an introduction of yourself to the committee who will review your application.

3. All application forms and materials should be typed.

4. All materials and completed application forms submitted to the church via mail must be placed in a sealed manila clasp envelope with your name and address clearly written or labeled on the outside. Applications must be submitted to New Mt. Zion either via mail or by electronic submission via e-mail. Applications submitted by e-mail must be sent to NewMtZion@mail.com. Applications submitted to the church by mail must be mailed to New Mt. Zion and addressed in the following manner:

**New Mt. Zion M.B. Church**

**Attn: Scholarship Committee**

**140 West Maple Street**

**Jackson, MS 39203**

5. Deliver your application and required materials to New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church on or before July 15th of the calendar year in which the scholarship will be awarded.

6. An official transcript(s) and letters of recommendation must arrive at New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church on or before the closing date of application July 15th of the calendar year in which the scholarship will be awarded.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

1. The applicant must have maintained an active relationship with New Mt. Zion.

2. There shall be no age restrictions except for the requirement which specifies that the applicant must be a graduating high school senior.

3. The applicant must have applied to his/her school of choice and must provide documentation of acceptance before an award is confirmed.

**Application Forms:**

1. Application forms will be available after January 15th of each calendar year in which the scholarship will be awarded. All applications must be returned to New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church on or before June 30th of the same year. Applicants will be notified of awards after August 1st of the same year.

2. A new application form and required materials must be submitted each time the applicant applies for the Scholarship.

a. IF a successful candidate wishes, consideration for a subsequent year, he/she must meet the application criteria and include a statement of progress toward completion.

b. IF a previously unsuccessful candidate wishes reconsideration, he/she must meet the application criteria and include a statement of interim progress.

**Accompanying Forms:**

1. Each application must be accompanied by a personal essay/statement, not to exceed 400 words maximum, which must include the education goals of the applicant, motivation, why the applicant feels he/she should receive the scholarship, and a personal profile of introduction. Applicants are encouraged to submit other material, which they consider relevant.

2. Each application must have three written recommendations to be mailed directly to New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church’s business office. The recommendation shall include:

a. Recommendation from a high school administrator, teacher, coach, mentor, teacher, or college professor, etc.

b. Recommendation from an employer.

3. A recent official transcript – high school and/or college.

4. All parts of the application must be received at New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church on or before July 15th of the calendar year in which the scholarship is to be awarded.

**Interview:**

The Church Scholarship Review Committee may require an interview or informal meeting with the applicants. Applicants will be notified by telephone, email or letter of their interview date and time. All interviews shall be completed prior to August 1st of the application year in which the scholarship is to be awarded.

SIGNATURES:

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Scholarship Review Committee

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Pastor Willie Tobias, Jr.