



Woodstock, GA – Cherokee County

“Passing the Torch from Generation to Generation”

2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall Sr. Scholarship Application

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in becoming a part of a new tradition with the Sigma Delta Sigma Education Committee. We are currently seeking a male that exemplifies the qualities of scholarship that will be awarded by Sigma Delta Sigma Education committee.

"Passing the Torch from Generation to Generation".

We are now accepting applications for the 2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall High School Scholarship. In order to apply for this application, you must meet the following criteria:

- **Must be a male presently enrolled as a high school senior at a high school located in the state of Georgia.**
- **Must have a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA at the time of the application deadline.**
- **Should be a responsible, supportive, self-disciplined, positive, and energetic individual who is interested in the welfare of education and in the community.**

Enclosed you will find the 2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall scholarship application with forms attached. The scholarship application must be uploaded to the SDS website

<https://sds1914.com/bishop-stephen-b-hall-scholarship/> by **Saturday, March 23, 2024 by 11:59 pm**. Please make sure that the following forms/documents are turned in:

- **COMPLETED 2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall Scholarship Application**
- **Current Resume**
- **Scholarship Essay (between 2-4 pages maximum)**
- **OFFICIAL copy of high school transcript**
- **Three forms of recommendation:**

Once we receive your application, you will receive an email confirming that we have received your application. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted! **NO EXCEPTIONS!** After all applications have been received, applicants will be assigned points based off the following information:

- Application with resume
- Grade Point Average
- Recommendation Letters
- Scholarship Essay
- Overall Presentation

If you have any questions about the scholarship application, please contact me at education@sds1914.com. Thank you for your time and good luck with the process!

Sincerely,

Thomas Smith
Director of Education



Bishop Stephen B. Hall Sr. (1965-2020)

Bishop Stephen Hall was born on August 1, 1965 in Englewood, New Jersey to Reverend Edward and Anna Hall. He was raised in Atlanta, GA, in the inner-city neighborhood of Vine City.

He began his lifelong call of preaching at the age of fifteen. He traveled the country and abroad proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a sought-after vessel and voice of God. He was licensed and ordained by his father, at his childhood church home, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He began pastoring at eighteen years old at Chapel Hill Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He served as pastor fifteen years at Rhema Christian Fellowship in Athens Georgia. All three churches remained near and dear to his heart throughout his life and ministry.

On July 28, 1994, he married the love of his life, Vanessa Morris, with whom he raised a family and shared a ministry. Together they traveled the world, hosted marriage events, and wrote a book, *Space and Grace to Build a Bigger and Better Marriage*. Their example of marriage guided thousands of couples toward faithful, loving and happy marriages through practical and experiential teachings.

In 2002, he founded the Rhema Nation Church, currently located in Lithonia, GA. "Structure, Excellence and Excitement" (The S.E.E. Method) describes the experience that Bishop Hall developed through The Rhema Nation Church, which is unequivocally "a church after positive results and not paralyzing religion". He affectionately called Rhema "the greatest church on this side of heaven" and often proclaimed that there was no other place he'd rather pastor. He greatly loved his church and considered each and every member an extension of his family. And his heart.

He was a proud product of the Atlanta Public School System, where he graduated from Booker T. Washington HS. His post-secondary pursuits included a bachelor's degree in Contemporary Religious Studies from Canyon College and a Master of Divinity from Trinity College and a Ph.D. in Christian Clinical Counseling from International Theological Seminary. He was a devoted member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and a charter member of the Sigma Delta Sigma chapter in Georgia.

In September of 2009, he was consecrated to the office of State Bishop of GA in the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship, under the leadership of founder, Bishop Paul S. Morton, Sr. He also served as the Bishop of Marriage and Family, under the leadership of Presiding Bishop Joseph W. Walker III, until his death. In 2009 he was also inducted into the prestigious Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College.

On Monday, March 2, 2020, Bishop Hall went home to be with his Lord and Savior. After a courageous fight with pancreatic cancer, Bishop Hall passed away to glory at the age of fifty-four surrounded by his family.



Scholarship Rules and Guidelines

In order to be eligible to receive the 2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall Scholarship, the following rules apply:

1. Must be a male presently enrolled as a high school senior at a high school located in the state of Georgia.
2. Must have a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA at the time of the application deadline.
3. Should be a responsible, supportive, self-disciplined, positive, and energetic individual who is interested in the welfare of education and in the community.
4. A total of one scholarship will be awarded. The number of awards is at the sole discretion of the SDS scholarship committee.
5. The scholarship will be worth \$500 and it is non-renewable. The award will be paid to the student in one payment of \$500 at the beginning of the Spring 2024 semester.
6. The scholarship must be used at an accredited college or university.
7. The SDS scholarship committee will judge the submitted scholarship applications. Finalists will be selected based on the application and attached documents. The scholarship recipient will be chosen and notified by **Saturday, March 30, 2024**.
8. The SDS scholarship committee reserves the right to conduct an interview of the finalists.
9. The scholarship recipients will be determined by the Sigma Delta Sigma Scholarship Committee. It is solely at the discretion of the SDS scholarship committee to make the determination of which applicants followed the guidelines as set forth in the application.

Please be sure to complete the scholarship application form and include ALL attachments listed below. Failure to adhere to the instructions will result in disqualification of your application.

1. COMPLETED 2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall Scholarship Application
2. Current resume
3. An official copy of your high school transcript showing your cumulative GPA. (You can scan and upload it)
4. Three Letters of Recommendation
5. A 2-4 page scholarship essay (information will be included in application)

Your completed application package should be uploaded to the Sigma Delta Sigma website <https://sds1914.com/bishop-stephen-b-hall-scholarship/> by **Saturday, March 23, 2024 by 11:59 pm**.

Please save your application package as ***"Bishop Stephen B. Hall Scholarship - Your Name"*** since we will be receiving a number of applications during this application process.



2024 Bishop Stephen B. Hall Scholarship Application

Please print clearly or type and attach a current resume.

Part I: Personal Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Part II: High School Information

Name of School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ / _____ Expected Date of Graduation: _____
(i.e. 3.5/4.0 scale)

OPTIONAL – SAT Combined Score: _____ ACT Composite Score: _____

Part III: Applicant's Colleges/Universities Applying To

	Name of Institution	Location (City, State)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		



*If you have been accepted to any of these schools, please put **(ACCEPTED)** next to the school's name.

Part IV: Short Answer

Please answer the following questions concisely and attach additional sheets if needed.

1. What other scholarships, grants, or financial aid awards have you received or do you expect to receive for the 2024 school year?

Award Name	Date	Amount

2. What academic awards, recognitions, or honors have you received during your high school career?

Award Name	Description	Date

3. What community service activities or organizations have you been involved with in the last year? List all your involvement in student organizations. Please include if you have held any leadership positions and years involved.

Activity/Organization	Position	Dates Participated

4. List all of your current and previous work experience. Please include the type of work you did, how many hours you worked per week, and length of employment.



Employer	Position	Dates Participated	Hours Per Week

Part V: Essay

Topic: Considering what you have witnessed and experienced in the media, in your community and in school, what do you think is the most pressing societal issue we face today and why? How will this issue affect your generation and future generations to come if it is not handled? In what ways do you desire to change the landscape of your community with the opportunities you will gain from a college education?

Essay Criteria:

- Your essay should be between two to four pages, double-spaced and typed.
- Size 12 font (only Times New Roman or Arial font are accepted)
- **Your essay will be judged based on the following:**
 - The degree to which the writer establishes a controlling idea and elaborates the main points with examples, illustrations, facts or details that are appropriate to the audience.
 - The degree to which the writer's ideas are arranged in a clear order and the overall structure of the response is consistent to the audience.
 - The degree to which the writer controls language to engage the reader.
 - The degree to which the writer demonstrates control of sentence formation, usage, and mechanics.
- **The essay will account for a major portion of the scoring criteria for the awarding of the scholarship.**

Part VI: Recommendations and Transcripts

Recommendations

Each applicant must have **THREE** Letters of Recommendation for their application package. Faculty/staff members (teachers, principals, and/or guidance counselors); employers; and coaches/organizational sponsors are all acceptable recommenders who can assess your skills.

Transcripts

Applicants must obtain a copy of their high school transcript and submit it as a PDF along with the scholarship application **OR** have their guidance counselor email the transcript as a PDF to education@sds1914.com. **Please include the applicant's name in the subject.** The transcript should show the applicant's GPA and, if possible, the applicant's percentile rank. Applications



are considered incomplete until transcripts and/or academic verifications are received by the SYLF scholarship committee.

Part VII: Applicant Verification

By signing this application, I affirm that all information contained within this application and accompanying attachments are complete, accurate and all information is truthful. Also by signing this application, I authorize the Sigma Delta Sigma Education Committee to check my academic transcript to verify my current cumulative GPA.

Applicant

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Scholarship Application Package Checklist

The following checklist is provided for the applicant's benefit. To be eligible for this scholarship, the applicant must make sure all of the following are done and the completed application package must be submitted to the Sigma Delta Sigma website <https://sds1914.com/bishop-stephen-b-hall-scholarship/> by **Saturday, March 23, 2024 by 11:59 pm** please save application package as **"Bishop Stephen B. Hall Scholarship – Your Name."**

- COMPLETED 2024 Bishop Stephen Hall Scholarship Application
- Applicant's Current Resume
- OFFICIAL Copy of High School Transcript (PDF format – either included in application package or sent by guidance counselor via email)
- Three Letters of Recommendation
- Scholarship Essay (between 2-4 pages maximum)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Thomas Smith at education@sds1914.com. Good luck with the application process!

