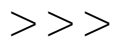


THE WILLIAM L. AND VICTORINE Q. ADAMS FOUNDATION, INC.



# Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship

**Handbook for Applicants  
and Scholars**





## OUR MISSION

- > Improving the lives of Baltimore's young African-Americans through undergraduate business education.
- > Helping to create the next generation of Baltimore's African-American business success stories.
- > Stimulating Baltimore's continued economic growth through African-American business leadership.

THE WILLIAM L. AND VICTORINE Q. ADAMS FOUNDATION  
A private charitable foundation created by  
William L. and Victorine Q. Adams

Incorporated 1984

# Is the Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship right for you?

## WHO'S ELIGIBLE

African-Americans who reside in Baltimore City and:

- > Have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA;
- > Can demonstrate financial need;
- > Are high school seniors or graduates (including GED recipients);
- > Are enrolled in or have been accepted by a full-time, four-year undergraduate program; and
- > Major in business (including accounting, economics, finance and other related areas).

## WHAT WE OFFER

The Foundation offers:

- > Need-based scholarships for four-year college/university study;
- > Awarded on an annual basis for partial funding of one year's tuition and expenses;
- > Funding is available, based on re-certification of eligibility, for a total of four years or until the attainment of a bachelor's degree, whichever comes first. Renewal is not guaranteed.
- > Annual business development workshops and networking opportunities.

Since 1995, scholarships have ranged from \$600 to \$10,000 per student per year.

Read further for full details regarding what we offer, eligibility, the application/selection process and scholarship recertification requirements for the Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship.

**Questions?** Call the Scholarship Coordinator at (410) 783-3208 or (877) 811-0181 or see Frequently Asked Questions on page 13.

# About The Foundation and Scholarship

## THE WILLIAM L. AND VICTORINE Q. ADAMS FOUNDATION

Incorporated in 1984, The William L. and Victorine Q. Adams Foundation (the Foundation) is a private charitable organization that has contributed to numerous philanthropic causes. Through the Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Adams dedicated their resources to improving the lives of young people, including funding the *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship*. By helping with college expenses, the Foundation provides educational opportunities for African-Americans who reside in Baltimore City. The Foundation hopes Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship graduates will stimulate business leadership and foster economic development in Baltimore and in the African-American community.

*Turn to page 16 to learn more about Mr. and Mrs. Adams.*

## THE ADAMS FUTURE BUSINESS LEADER SCHOLARSHIP

The Foundation created the *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* in 1995 to promote undergraduate business study. Since then, the scholarship has helped many promising students achieve their educational goals. Need-based scholarships are awarded on a yearly basis and recipients (scholars) may re-certify to receive funding for a total of four years (or until attainment of their bachelor's degree, whichever happens first).

The scholarship's dollar amount is based on a careful review of all financial data. The Foundation reviews: grants, awards, private scholarships and other income from various sources, including the required Parental (and/or family) Contribution versus specific educational expenses of the selected college or university.

Normally, the scholarship amount that is considered is determined by a formula that calculates the difference between the student's estimated income for each school year and specific school expenses. *Income* includes, but is not limited to, other scholarships, grants and awards, the required Parental (and/or family) Contribution and any monetary contribution by the student. *Expenses* are those costs directly related to enrollment (i.e., tuition, room and board). The amount of the award is also affected by the dollar amount that new and continuing scholars request, as well as the growth of the Foundation's investments.

The *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* award has two components: **direct scholarship disbursement** to the college/university and a **stipend** which is given to the scholar. Scholarship checks which cover a portion of the tuition, room and board are disbursed directly to the scholar's college in August/September and January/February. In addition, each scholar receives a \$500 per semester (\$1,000 per year) stipend check that may be applied to either his/her college bill or direct educational expenses (e.g., books, fees, and computers). The scholarship amount is re-evaluated each spring as part of the re-certification process.

Applicants and scholars are permitted to attend any accredited four-year college or university in the continental United States; however, the choice of school should reflect a realistic and prudent assessment of the family's ability to meet additional and unanticipated expenses.

Students are expected to apply for all financial aid, private scholarships, and grants on a timely basis, and pursue all opportunities for funding as early in the school year as possible. In addition to funding the scholarship, the Foundation sponsors annual events that are intended to increase scholar competitiveness, enhance professionalism, and spur networking with peers and Baltimore business leaders.

## The Application and Selection Process

### SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

African-American residents of Baltimore City who plan to attend an accredited four-year college or university, or are already enrolled as full-time undergraduates, may compete for the *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship*. Applicants must be at least high school seniors and anticipate graduating after the upcoming spring term. General Equivalency Diploma (GED) recipients, students currently enrolled in two-year or four-year colleges, two-year associate degree recipients and high school graduates who have delayed college may also apply. At a minimum, applicants must:

> **Demonstrate financial need.**

Applicants are required to demonstrate financial need and prove eligibility for financial aid by filing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* and obtaining a Student Aid Report (SAR). The *FAFSA* should be submitted as soon after January 1 as possible. Students who do not file the *FAFSA* are not considered to be financially needy, and therefore are ineligible for this scholarship. *FAFSAs* may be obtained from libraries, the applicant's high school or college, by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID or online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

- > **Prove United States citizenship.**  
The Foundation uses the SAR as proof of citizenship.
- > **Major in business.**  
Qualifying business majors include (but are not limited to) accounting, economics, finance, business management, and statistics.
- > **Agree to volunteer.**  
Scholars must volunteer at least 30 hours per year, preferably in Baltimore, with children or youth at a Foundation-approved service organization during each year of scholarship funding. Although this commitment may be completed at any time during the year, the Scholarship Coordinator must approve the proposed service first. Volunteer activity performed without the Scholarship Coordinator's prior approval is not considered a valid fulfillment of the volunteer service commitment.
- > **Have earned a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA).**  
At the time the application is submitted, the applicant's cumulative average must be 3.0 or higher based on a 4.0 scale. At the end of the spring term, applicants and/or scholars may be required to submit an official transcript which verifies that the final GPA is at least 3.0.
- > **Be accepted by or enrolled in an accredited four-year college or university.**  
Scholars must intend to obtain a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.
- > **Exhibit high standards of behavior, character and decorum.**  
The Foundation expects scholars to demonstrate good conduct.

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

*Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* applications are available each year from November 1 to April 1. Applications can be requested by contacting the Scholarship Coordinator at 410-783-3208, toll-free at (877) 811-0181 or online at [www.adamsfound.org](http://www.adamsfound.org). Applications can also be obtained by writing to:

Scholarship Coordinator  
William L. and Victorine Q. Adams Foundation  
1040 Park Avenue, Suite 300  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than **May 1**. Hand-delivered applications must be received at the Foundation office, stamped and dated by 5:00 p.m. on May 1. Applications received after this time will NOT be considered. Applicants who apply prior to the deadline, but do not meet the Foundation's initial criteria (see "Who's eligible"), will be notified within 30 days after their application is received that they will not be considered.

Applicants must submit an application packet that contains the following documents:

- > Completed, signed and dated *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* application;
- > Photocopy of the current academic transcript;
- > Letter of recommendation from a counselor or advisor;
- > Photocopy of birth certificate – applicants born in Baltimore should contact the Division of Vital Records Office for the State of Maryland at 6550 Reisterstown Road Plaza, Baltimore, MD 21215;
- > Photocopy of the applicant's current driver's license or identification card;
- > Photocopy of the acceptance letter from the college or university the applicant will attend (omit if currently enrolled);
- > Personal letter to the Foundation that describes the applicant's life and career goals (no more than two typed double-spaced, single-sided pages);
- > Completed *Student Budget Worksheet*<sup>1</sup> (found in Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship application) accompanied by a photo copy of the signed Financial Notification Letter from the applicant's college or university and verification of the receipt of any other scholarships, awards or grants;
- > Photocopy of the entire *Student Aid Report (SAR)* for the upcoming school year;
- > Photograph of the applicant; and
- > Parent's/guardian's W-2 form.

The Foundation will not review or consider additional documents (e.g., multi-media submissions, resumes, award certificates, etc.) under any circumstances. Applicants should not include extra materials in the application packet or submit any other materials except those requested in the application.

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

Evaluation of the *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* applicant includes:

- > an initial screening of the application materials;
- > a preliminary interview with staff;
- > a final interview by the Scholarship Review Committee; and
- > scholar selection.

The assessment begins after the May 1 deadline and culminates in July. Awards are announced in July and August pending final approval of all documents.

**Initial screening:** Each application is evaluated to determine overall quality, verify that scholarship eligibility has been met, and assure that applicants have complied with all instructions. The application packet should be neat; all information must be complete and accurate. At this time, the Foundation selects the most outstanding applicants for further evaluation. Applicants who pass the initial screening may be asked to provide additional information to assist in auditing the family's financial status and verify any data that have been submitted. Applicants who are not selected are notified by mail within 14 business days of the initial screening.

**Preliminary interview:** The preliminary interview, which is held during late May or early June, offers an opportunity for invited applicants to meet the Foundation's staff. During this interview the applicant will clarify information that is presented in the application packet, especially the Student Budget Worksheet, and may be required to submit additional documents. The preliminary interview is also an opportunity for applicants to ask questions about the scholarship process. Applicants who are chosen as finalists after the preliminary interview will be notified by mail to attend an interview with the Scholarship Review Committee.

**Scholarship Review Committee interview:** During June, all finalists are interviewed by the Scholarship Review Committee, which is composed of volunteers who are business professionals, community leaders and educators.

Applicants up to age 21 are required to bring parents or legal guardians to both the preliminary and final interviews. Parents or guardians have the opportunity to ask the staff questions when they are introduced to the staff and/or the Scholarship Review Committee following the interviews.

**Scholar selection:** During the interview and subsequent deliberations, the Scholarship Review Committee considers the overall application, the quality of the personal letter to the Foundation, examples of the finalists' leadership, initiative and perseverance, as well as their interview responses. In addition, the committee evaluates the finalists' decorum and demeanor to assure they reflect the Foundation's high standards.

Finalists who are not selected to receive a scholarship will be notified via mail within 14 business days. Finalists who are selected as Adams Future Business Leader Scholars will be notified of their award in July pending receipt and approval of all documents. The amount of the award is determined by the Foundation; funding is disbursed after all documents are received and approved. The final decision is solely at the discretion of the Foundation and is preceded by a careful verification of all information presented by the applicant.

Applicants and scholars must disclose any change or anticipated change that deviates from the verbal or written information that they submit during the application process.

Following selection, the Foundation mails the first half of the scholarship to the college or university in August/September. No funding is disbursed after November 1.

The stipend for the fall term is mailed directly to the newly elected scholars after they submit the following documents: (1) an updated fall statement of accounts; (2) completed Student Information Form<sup>2</sup>; and (3) an official, updated copy of their fall registration.

## Scholarship Requirements

**Adams Future Business Leader Scholars must comply with all requirements, guidelines and policies set forth in this handbook. Failure to comply will jeopardize the scholarship.**

**Annual Scholar Activities:** All scholarship recipients must attend specific mandatory events that are sponsored by the Foundation, including the holiday social held in December and the workshop, normally held on the first Saturday in August. The workshop is designed to help scholars become more competitive through learning activities that can improve personal and professional performance.

**Attire:** Scholars must attend all Foundation-sponsored events dressed in business attire unless otherwise notified. A conservative appearance that includes appropriate hairstyles, nail care and modest accessories is required. Extreme attire (e.g., bright, faddish clothing) is not acceptable. Accessories should be limited. Gentlemen should wear a suit with a long-sleeved dress shirt, belt, socks, tie and shoes with leather soles. Ladies should wear a business dress or suit (knee length or longer) with closed shoes and hosiery. Scholars are expected to have a neat and modest appearance at all times, as befitting representatives of the Foundation, even when not attending Foundation events.

**Dress requirements:**

*General Requirements for Ladies and Gentlemen*

Conservative and Neat Appearance

Clean-cut Hairstyles

Modest and Limited Accessories

Basic Colors

*Professional/Business Attire for Ladies*

Business Suit or Dress (knee length, no bare shoulders)

Closed Shoes and Hosiery

*Professional/Business Attire for Gentlemen*

Business Suit

Long Sleeve Dress Shirt

Belt, Dark Socks and Tie

Dress Leather Shoes with Leather Soles

**Not Acceptable**

Extreme or Provocative Attire

Faddish Clothing

Excessive Jewelry

Flamboyant Hairstyles (Gentlemen: no Braids, Dreads, etc.)

Rubber Sole Shoes

Khaki Pants

Tattoos

Body Piercing (pierced earlobes for females only)

**Behavior:** Scholars are expected to exercise good judgment in their life choices, activities and conduct. They must present themselves in a professional manner and exhibit good character and maturity. Improper or illegal behavior is not acceptable and is considered a serious offense by the Foundation. In addition, any activity that results in disciplinary action or expulsion will cause a review by the Foundation and will jeopardize the scholarship.

**Change in Status:** During the application and re-certification process and during any activities or communications, applicants and scholars provide verbal and written information that is used to determine if they meet the Foundation's requirements. Applicants and scholars are required to notify the Foundation immediately if there are any changes, or anticipated changes, in any of the information (verbal or written) presented during communications with the Foundation staff, or the Scholarship Coordinator. Prior notification in itself does not guarantee the action or activity is acceptable. The Foundation will determine if the change will affect the applicants or scholar's status. Failure to give appropriate notification and receive approval, as required for any changes, may result in disqualification.

Changes in status include but are not limited to the following:

- > change in marital status;
- > change in intended major;
- > change in permanent or temporary address; and
- > receipt of additional funding (e.g., scholarships, grants, employment).

**Communication with the Foundation:** Scholarship recipients should communicate with the Foundation via the Scholarship Coordinator. Information such as change of home or college address, email address, telephone numbers, etc., should be conveyed immediately. Scholars should also confirm receipt of submitted information by contacting the Scholarship Coordinator.

**Grade Point Average:** If freshmen, sophomores or juniors fail to maintain at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA as reflected on the spring term grade report, they will be immediately removed from the program. The Foundation will notify the scholar that the scholarship will not continue during the upcoming school year.

Scholars whose cumulative grades have fallen below 3.0 will be considered for reinstatement on a case-by-case basis once they raise their cumulative GPA back to a 3.0 or higher during the regular school year. They should continue to send in their re-certification packets to preserve their eligibility for reconsideration. Normally these scholars are eligible to reapply with priority consideration during the application period (November 1 through May 1) of the subsequent year. Once a new application is submitted, the student will be considered for the scholarship for the upcoming year provided at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA has been maintained and the other requirements of the Foundation are met.

Seniors are expected to maintain at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA at the end of both the fall and spring term. At the end of the fall term, if the senior's grades have dropped below a cumulative 3.0, the Foundation will determine if the award will continue during the final term.

**Limits of the Scholarship:** *The Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* is designed to supplement, for up to four years, the educational costs of full-time undergraduate students who, in addition to the other scholarship requirements, are enrolled in an accredited four-year college or university. Once the recipient earns a bachelor's degree or completes four years of study, the Foundation is not obligated to provide funds for subsequent study.

**Search for Additional Funding:** Scholarship recipients are expected to renew all financial aid, private scholarships and grants on a timely basis. Recipients are also expected to pursue other opportunities for funding as early in the school year as possible

**Selection of College:** Scholars are permitted to attend any accredited four-year college or university in the continental United States; however, the choice of school should reflect a realistic and prudent assessment of the family's ability to meet additional and unanticipated expenses that will not be covered by financial aid.

**Skills Enhancement:** The Foundation may require that applicants and/or scholars receive supplementary instruction to enhance certain skills (e.g. writing, speaking) as a condition of the scholarship.

**Summer Employment:** All scholars must be gainfully employed during summer breaks unless the Foundation receives notification of any special circumstances that prevent summer employment. Internships are encouraged. Failure to comply without prior notification and approval from the Foundation may result in disqualification. Scholars must submit a completed *Employment Record Form* as part of the fall re-certification process.

**Volunteer Obligations:** In exchange for continued support from the Foundation, scholars are required to volunteer 30 hours with children or youth during each year of scholarship funding. The volunteer service obligation may be completed at any time during the year. However, the Scholarship Coordinator must approve the intended volunteer effort before the service begins or the activity will not count toward the scholar's obligation. The Foundation prefers that scholars perform the volunteer service in Baltimore City; however, subject to Foundation approval, scholars may perform volunteer activities in their respective college or summer employment locations. A *Community Services Directory*<sup>3</sup>, which lists volunteer service opportunities in Baltimore, is available for review by contacting the Scholarship Coordinator. Scholars must submit a completed Volunteer Service Record as part of the fall re-certification.

## Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship Recertification Requirements

The need-based Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship is awarded for one year. Scholarship renewal is NOT guaranteed; however, the Foundation intends to provide funding for up to four years of study or receipt of a bachelor's degree (whichever comes first), so long as the scholar meets all requirements.

All scholars must re-certify semiannually (during the fall and spring) with the Foundation to continue scholarship eligibility. The amount of the scholarship is reviewed annually as part of the spring re-certification process. If the re-certification documents are approved and all other requirements are met, the scholar will receive funding for another year. If the Foundation receives all documents by July 1 and they are subsequently approved, a scholarship continuation notice, announcing the amount of the scholarship for the upcoming year, will be mailed by August 1. The award will be disbursed semiannually to the bursar's office at the scholar's college or university in August/September and January/February. The stipend check will be sent in the scholar's name directly to the address the scholar provides in the re-certification documents. Contact the Scholarship Coordinator at (410) 783-3208, toll-free at (877) 811-0181, or online at [www.adamsfound.org](http://www.adamsfound.org) to confirm the receipt and approval of any documents.

The Foundation mails re-certification materials in late November and April each year. The scholar should contact the Scholarship Coordinator if the re-certification packet is not received. Completed re-certification packets should be returned by U.S. mail to the Scholarship Coordinator at the Foundation office. Once the completed re-certification packets are received, verified by the Scholarship Coordinator and approved by the Foundation, recipients are notified of scholarship continuation or denial.

Re-certification for the fall term includes the submission of an updated *FAFSA* and *SAR*. Scholars must file a Renewal *FAFSA* each year as part of the re-certification process. The Foundation expects scholars to file for this renewal immediately after January 1, which is the earliest possible date to file.

### **Fall term re-certification**

Scholars must submit the following documents by July 1:

- > an official copy of the transcripts;
- > a copy of the fall *Statement of Accounts*;
- > an official copy of the fall registration;
- > a completed *Employment Record Form*<sup>4</sup>;
- > a completed *Student Information Form*<sup>4</sup>;
- > a completed *Volunteer Information Form*<sup>4</sup>;
- > a copy of the *Student Aid Report*;
- > a complete *Student Budget Worksheet*<sup>4</sup> for the upcoming fall term;  
and
- > a signed copy of the most recent *Financial Aid Notification* letter from the college.

### **Spring term re-certification**

Scholars must submit the following documents by January 1:

- > a completed *Student Information Form*<sup>4</sup>;
- > an official copy of the fall semester grades;
- > an official copy of the spring registration; and
- > a copy of the spring *Statement of Account*.

For scholarship continuation, all fall and spring term re-certification documents must be approved and funding must be disbursed by November 1 and March 1, respectively.

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#### **FOOTNOTES:**

- <sup>1</sup> Per the Expected Family Contribution (found in Student Aid Report), parents must list the direct financial contribution they will make toward the student's education in the INCOME column ("Parent/Family Contribution") on the Student Budget Worksheet.
- <sup>2</sup> Provided by the Foundation.
- <sup>3</sup> The Foundation does not endorse any action set forth by organizations in its Community Services Directory. The Foundation is not affiliated with any said organizations, does not condone, and is not responsible for any of its employees or affiliates.
- <sup>4</sup> Scholars receive this document in the re-certification packet.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is the Foundation's primary objective?**

The Foundation's primary objective is to provide monetary assistance for Baltimore City African-American students pursuing a full-time undergraduate business degree who demonstrate financial need and meet the scholarship's other criteria.

## **How does the Foundation fund the *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship*?**

Mr. and Mrs. Adams provided the principal funds which were invested to generate income that supports the scholarship.

## **How much money is available for scholarships?**

The amount varies. Foundation officials determine the amount of the scholarship pool each year.

## **What does the Foundation look for in its *Adams Future Business Leader Scholars*?**

Applicants and scholars are expected to exhibit judgment, maturity, perseverance, determination and good character. Conservative demeanor and appearance are also expected.

## **Is this scholarship only available to high school seniors?**

No. GED recipients; high school graduates who now wish to pursue a college degree; students attending or who have graduated from two-year colleges; and students currently enrolled in four-year colleges who meet the scholarship's other criteria may apply. There is no age limit.

## **How many new students enter the scholarship program each year?**

The number of new *Adams Future Business Leader Scholars* varies each year, depending on the number of applicants, their financial need and available funds. On average, four to six students become scholars each year.

## **Are scholarships renewable?**

Scholarships are awarded yearly. Scholarship funding is available for up to four years of undergraduate study if the re-certification information, including the *Student Budget Worksheet*, is approved and all other criteria are met. The amount of the award may vary from year to year, depending on financial need and other factors.

## **Is each recipient's Scholarship amount the same?**

No. Scholarship amounts vary. An individual's "financial need" as determined by the Foundation influences the dollar amount that is considered for a scholarship.

**How is financial need determined?**

The difference between the student's "Income Budget" and "Expense Budget" as listed on the *Student Budget Worksheet* is termed "Financial Need." The Foundation funds a portion of this "Financial Need." The scholarship can NOT exceed the amount of the "Financial Need."

**What other data are considered?**

The Foundation analyzes the information that is summarized in the *SAR*, which is compiled from data the applicant or scholar submits for the *FAFSA* and/or *RENEWAL FAFSA*. In addition, the Foundation reviews the *Financial Aid Notification* or financial aid award notice that is usually provided by the applicant's college or university. All information listed on the *Student Budget Worksheet* is weighed. The parent's income and the number of applicants and current scholars are also considered.

**What is the amount of each scholarship?**

The dollar amount that can be considered for a scholarship is determined from a review of all the submitted materials including the *Student Budget Worksheet*. Scholarship amounts vary primarily because the financial need that is calculated for each scholar varies. Scholarships have ranged from \$600 – \$10,000 per student per year.

**Is the Expected Family Contribution considered by the Foundation in its final decision?**

Yes. The Expected Family Contribution is the direct financial contribution that parents and/or family are expected to make to the student's educational costs. (See *SAR*.) The Expected Family Contribution is considered when the scholarship amount is determined during both the application and re-certification process. The applicant must indicate the amount that parents and/or family will contribute under "Parental Contribution," which is in the "Income" section of the *Student Budget Worksheet*.

**How often does re-certification occur?**

Re-certification occurs twice a year after the fall and spring terms.

**Who makes up the Scholarship Review Committee?**

The Scholarship Review Committee is composed of citizens from the community who volunteer their time to assist the Foundation with the finalists' evaluation. The Scholarship Review Committee shall have no fewer than three and no more than seven members each year.

**How many candidates does the Scholarship Review Committee interview?**

The committee usually interviews 5-7 finalists.

**What type of questions does the Scholarship Review Committee ask during the final interview?**

The Scholarship Review Committee considers a variety of broad-based questions and scenarios to explore whether or not a finalist has the desired traits and values of an *Adams Future Business Leader Scholarship* recipient. The committee seeks to determine if the candidate will represent the Foundation well.

**When are award amounts announced?**

New scholars and continuing scholars are usually notified of award amounts in July and August provided all documents have been received and approved.

**How do I get an application or more information?**

Contact the Scholarship Coordinator at (410) 738-3208, toll free at (877) 811-0181, or online at [www.adamsfound.org](http://www.adamsfound.org) to request an application or to get more information about the scholarship.

**Who are William L. and Victorine Q. Adams? Why did they establish this scholarship?**

Longtime residents of Baltimore City, Mrs. Adams (deceased January 2006) and Mr. Adams are acknowledged leaders in our community. Highlights of their life stories are found on page 16 of this Handbook. Mr. and Mrs. Adams established this Foundation in 1984, contributing to numerous philanthropic causes, primarily in Baltimore. Since 1995, the Foundation has dedicated its resources to improving the lives of youth and fostering business leadership in Baltimore by providing scholarship funds to educate business majors.



WILLIAM L. AND VICTORINE Q. ADAMS

## About the Founders

### WILLIAM L. AND VICTORINE Q. ADAMS

**William L. Adams** was born on January 1, 1914, and raised on a farm by his grandparents in North Carolina. At age 15, he moved to Baltimore and began working at this young age, but held on to his goal of improving himself through education as he became a business success. In 1951, at age 37, he graduated from Frederick Douglass High School and subsequently graduated from Cortez Peters Business School and attended Morgan State College and Johns Hopkins University. In 1977, he received an honorary doctorate and delivered the commencement address at Morris Brown University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Often making commitments verbally or with a handshake, Mr. Adams earned a reputation for integrity among his business associates. His early activities included entertainment ventures such as Little Willie's Inn, Little Joe's, Ubangi Club and The Casino. He founded Adams Realty in the late

1930s, becoming one of Baltimore's leading real estate agents. In the 1950s, Mr. Adams and Henry Parks founded Parks Sausage Company, which became famous for its slogan, "More Parks Sausages, Mom!" During that decade, Mr. Adams acquired Carr's Beach in Annapolis, Maryland, which ultimately became one of the top vacation and entertainment destinations for African-American families in the region. In the 1970s, he formed Northwest Associates, Inc., to purchase an empty Sears Building at Mondawmin Mall. In 1977, he became co-founder and a principal of A&R Development Corp., a prominent regional real estate development company with numerous projects along the East Coast.

Civil rights activism and philanthropy define the life of Mr. Adams and his dedication to public service became well-known throughout Maryland, thanks to his leadership, energy and financial support. For example, he organized the Tavern Owners Association, which united with the Urban League to force liquor companies to hire African-American salesmen and delivermen. He worked with the late Dr. Lillie Jackson and the NAACP to assure that Pennsylvania Avenue merchants hired African-American sales personnel. Mr. Adams parlayed his love for golf into court actions which, after several appeals, resulted in a landmark decision that allowed African-Americans to enjoy public recreation facilities all across the country.

To foster a lifelong commitment to fight for opportunities for African-Americans through political action, Mr. Adams contributed to the campaigns of numerous candidates and provided seed money for young men in start-up businesses. Through the years, the Baltimore community benefited from the success of Mr. Adams as a businessman and his many charitable contributions. His continuous support for various philanthropic causes ultimately led to his support for higher education of African-American youth.

**Victorine Q. Adams** (deceased January 2006), daughter of the late Joseph C. Quille and Estelle Tate Quille, was born on April 28, 1912, in Baltimore. The family was united in love, devotion and Christian ethics. The pursuit of education was never a question in the Quille household. It was a normal expectation, as were attending church, good manners, obedience, and respect for self and others. Ms. Adams graduated with honors from Frederick Douglass High School and completed her studies at Coppin Normal School with a degree in education before beginning her teaching career. Ms. Adams later earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Morgan College and pursued graduate work at New York University School of Business. In 1935, she married William L. Adams.

During her tenure as manager and owner of the Charm Center, Inc., a ladies apparel shop, she lectured on grooming, personality development and social graces. An ardent civic leader, Mrs. Adams became linked with many civic, political and social organizations, and was an active member

of the Saint Peter Claver Roman Catholic Church. In 1946, she organized the Colored Women's [sic] Democratic Campaign Committee in the old Fourth District of East Baltimore, Cherry Hill and Mt. Winans. She initiated a Junior Registration Corps to train children to get out the vote and later directed a Register-to-Vote Campaign that enrolled more than 4,000 people. For this accomplishment, she was elected to the Afro-American Honor Roll in 1949. Along with her Campaign Committee, she joined other leaders in preventing the redistricting of the city. In 1958, Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Ethel P. Rich organized Women Power. In its first year, the Woman Power Leadership Conference desegregated Baltimore City's downtown hotels. Mrs. Adams then directed a successful door-to-door campaign to raise funds for the new Provident Hospital.

In the 1960s, Mrs. Adams was elected to the Maryland Assembly and then served 16 years on the Baltimore City Council. The Baltimore Fuel Fund, the first such assistance fund in the nation, is a model for other cities, and is one of Mrs. Adams' major contributions to the City during her political career. The fund was started in 1978 under Councilwoman Adams' leadership, with support from Mayor (and later Governor) William Donald Schaefer, with start-up and matching funds from Baltimore Gas and Electric Company.

Mrs. Adams possessed a quiet, gentle manner, quick wit, positive attitude and an irresistible smile that defined her life and set the tone for her dignified determination to give voice to African-American women. Her political accomplishments and dedication to charitable and civic causes have been widely recognized.

# Important Dates

## ADAMS FUTURE BUSINESS LEADER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS AND SCHOLARS

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	November 1 Deadline to disburse fall scholarship funds  Spring term re-certification documents mailed to scholars – due January 1  November 1 thru April 1 Scholarship applications available – due May 1
<b>DECEMBER</b>	Holiday social – <b>MANDATORY</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	January 1 Spring term re-certification documents due  Stipends and scholarship checks disbursed in January/February pending receipt and approval of all documents
<b>MARCH</b>	March 1 Deadline to disburse spring scholarship funds
<b>APRIL</b>	Fall term re-certification document mailed to scholars – due July 1.
<b>MAY 1</b>	Scholarship application deadline.
<b>MAY – JUNE</b>	Application review; preliminary and final interviews.
<b>JULY</b>	July 1 – Fall term re-certification documents due  July/August – New and continuing scholar awards announced
<b>AUGUST</b>	First Friday new scholars' orientation and lunch with president – <b>MANDATORY</b>  First Saturday Annual Workshop – <b>MANDATORY</b>  August/September – New and continuing scholars' scholarship checks and stipends disbursed pending receipt and approval of all documents.

# Driving Directions to the William L. and Victorine Q. Adams Foundation

The Foundation is located in Baltimore at Symphony Center office building, directly across from the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

## **FROM DOWNTOWN:**

- > Take Charles Street or Calvert Street
- > Turn left onto Madison Street. You will come to a light at the intersection of MLK Blvd. Madison turns into McCulloh Street at MLK. Go straight across onto McCulloh Street.
- > Turn right onto Dolphin Street.
- > Proceed on Dolphin crossing Howard Street. (At Howard Street, Dolphin will become Park Avenue). Symphony Center will be on your right.
- > The Foundation is the first red brick building (1040) on the right. Entrance to the garage is between the two buildings.

## **FROM THE SOUTH**

- > Take Interstate 95 to Interstate 395 towards Downtown Baltimore. (Follow signs for Martin Luther King Boulevard).
- > Proceed on Martin Luther King Blvd to Eutaw Street (approximately 12 lights).
- > Make a LEFT onto Eutaw Street.
- > Proceed to Dolphin Street (2nd light) – make a right onto Dolphin Street
- > Continue on Dolphin Street through the first light (Howard Street). Dolphin Street becomes Park Avenue after you cross Howard Street. You will see Symphony Center to your right.
- > The Foundation office is in the first red brick building (1040) on the right. The entrance to the garage is located between the two buildings.

## **FROM THE NORTH**

- > Take 695 to 83 South.
- > Proceed on 83 South to Exit 6 – North Avenue Exit.
- > Make a left on North Avenue.
- > Proceed on North Avenue across the bridge.
- > Make a right at light onto Howard Street.
- > Continue on Howard Street to the third light – Park Avenue (the three lights are close together).
- > Make a left onto Park Avenue.
- > You will see Symphony Center to your right.
- > Adams Foundation is in the first red brick building (1040) on the right. The entrance to the garage is located between the two buildings.

**During normal business hours:**

- > Entry into the building can be accessed on the second floor of the garage or through the first floor pedestrian entrance. Once in the building, take elevator or the stairs to the third floor and follow signs to Suite 300.
- > There is a charge for parking.

**After hours and weekends:**


- > You will need to go to the front door and press the intercom (to the left of the front door)
- > Press the # key for instructions
- > Press the # key for the directory
- > Dial 300 for Adams Foundation
- > Phone will ring and you will be buzzed in. (Prior arrangements must be made to gain admittance after hours and during weekends.)
- > There is a charge for parking

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**For more information:**

Scholarship Coordinator  
William L. and Victorine Q. Adams Foundation  
1040 Park Avenue, Suite 300  
Baltimore, MD 21201

[www.adamsfound.org](http://www.adamsfound.org)



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