

Black Chamber Education Fund



The Black Chamber of Commerce Of Orange County (BCOC)

Formally requests student applications for a unique Mentoring Project. Those selected after a thorough review of applications and nomination forms will receive:

- Year-long commitment from a current member of BCOC
- Opportunities to establish productive networks with members of the business community in Orange County
- Reimbursement for course textbooks*
- Recognition for academic achievements at annual BCOC awards ceremony

Applications and nomination forms can be easily obtained:

- By attending a BCOC or Black Chamber Education Fund sponsored mixer or event.
- By calling the BCOC office at 714-547-2646,
- By requesting one through email, info@ocblackchamber.com

Completed application, official transcript, and two nominations must be received no later than February, 15, 2007.

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* Book reimbursements limited to \$500 per year, student must maintain 'good academic standing' (2.0 or higher) within semester to receive this benefit.

Black Chamber of Commerce of Orange County (BCOC)

Book Reimbursement Incentive & Degree Guidance-Endurance Support Program

Higher education is one of the most important tools for social and economic mobility within this nation. This has been and continues to be evidenced within the African-American community. College attendance in itself expands the social, intellectual, and entrepreneurial skills of students. However, the achievement of baccalaureate degrees can be proven to guarantee an increase in the economic attainment, over a lifetime of earning, for those who complete this process.

BCOC will provide through this project, personal guidance, social integration and modest financial support to continuing college students. Direct mentoring relationships will be established between African-American students attending any of Orange County's community colleges, public or private universities and members of BCOC. Students will be provided many opportunities to interact with members of the Black Chamber at monthly mixers and other BCOC sponsored activities including the annual BCOC banquet. This contact will afford students an opportunity to begin establishing networks to advance both short and long-term career and educational goals before completing their baccalaureate programs. Members of BCOC will:

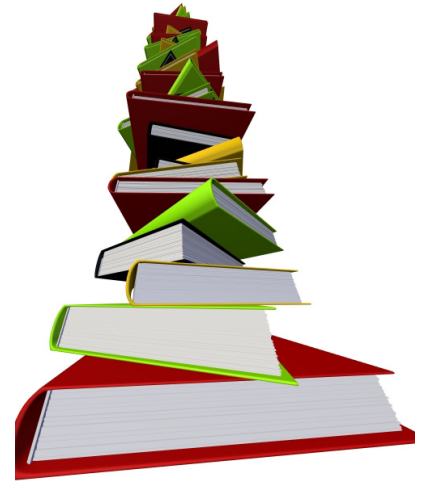
- Establish one-on-one relationships with selected students,
- Provide referrals to campus services when necessary,
- Involve proteges in activities sponsored by BCOC, and
- Monitor academic performance of students during a minimum of two (2) contacts made each semester for one full year.

African-American or other interested students who have completed their freshman or first year at any one of the two or four-year colleges in Orange County, or those who plan to transfer to a university from one of the selected community colleges, are eligible to compete to participate in the BRIDGES program.

Simple Application Process:

Submit essay, application, two letters of recommendation (school/employer), and copy of most recent academic transcripts, official transcript must be received prior to selection, unofficial transcripts may be submitted with application to: BCOC, 2323 North Broadway, Suite 302, Santa Ana, CA., 92706. All materials must be received by February 15, 2007.

Notification of selection will occur no later than March 31, 2007. Successful student applicants and mentors will be formally 'matched' during BCOC November Business Mixer. Contact the BCOC website (<http://www.OCBlackchamber.com>) for specific information regarding these services.



Last Name, First Initial:

2007 BRIDGES APPLICATION

Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____ (M.I.) _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Name of College or University Attended 2006-2007: _____

Name of College or University Planned for 2006-2007: _____

Name and Location of High School Attended: _____

Did you receive high school diploma? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, year: _____

Military Service? Yes ___ No ___ If Yes: Branch _____ Term: _____

Current or Planned College Major: _____ Minor: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ Professional School Plans: Y N

Place 'X' on appropriate spaces: ___ Semester ___ Quarter ___ Male ___ Female
___ Single ___ Married ___ Reside in dorms ___ Reside with Family
___ Share Apartment ___ Own transportation ___ Use Public Transportation

Number of Dependents other than applicant: _____ Ages of Dependents: _____

Total Number of Transferable Units or Current College 'Credits': _____ How
many units do you plan to carry during the fall semester? ___ spring _____

Current College Grade Point Average: _____ Number of weekly work hours: _____

Number of work hours per week _____ Position: _____

Place of employment _____ How long? _____

Required Essay: Each applicant must provide on a separate sheet, in 350 or fewer words, a double-spaced typewritten answer to two of the following questions.

- A. Describe the historical importance African-Americans place on the practice of "giving back to the community."
- B. Are you currently involved as a mentor or role model for a younger sibling, relative or friend? If so, describe three of the most important values you attempt to model for this protégé.
- C. How will you use skills acquired in your college education for the good of the Black community?