

Randolph County Training School (RCTS) Scholarship Fund
2026 Scholarship Application
410 Lonsdale Court
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774
(athornton1115@comcast.net)

History and Purpose of the RCTS Legacy and Reunion Scholarship: The RCTS Legacy and Reunion Scholarship is designed to support the educational and career aspirations of Randolph County, Alabama students whose family members attended or graduated from RCTS. All funds are allocated annually in scholarships to students with no administrative or other cost. The scholarship is part of a larger effort by RCTS alumni and supporters to preserve and institutionalize the rich RCTS tradition and ensure that its legacy is not lost.



RCTS was a Rosenwald descendant School that served the educational needs of African Americans for 51 years (1919-1970) before public schools in Randolph County, Alabama were desegregated. Since 2005, RCTS scholarships have been awarded to 110 graduating students from Randolph County's four high schools (Handley H.S., Woodland H.S, Wadley H.S., and the Randolph County HS). Additional information about RCTS and the scholarship is available at www.rctsfoundation.org and our Facebook Group site (RCTS Legacy and Reunion).

RCTS Foundation scholarship recipients have benefited from our support, and they are excellent representatives of the goals of the scholarship. Among the 110 recipients to date are: Jessica Trammell, Raven McFarlin, Robert and Marian Royston, Terry O'Bryan Vines, Dre Watkins, Quae Drake, Shakira Owensby, Keshon Lovette, Kieauna Strickland, Nia Green, T'Coriyan Winston, Kaliyah Bell, Ja'Meria Johnson, Asia Burton, Synquovia Staples, Jamarius Haynes, Ariel Rowland, Talee Sims, Trinity Nolan, and Demarcus Joiner.



Behind These Silent Walls
Publications About RCTS

Scholarship Eligibility Criteria: Scholarship applicants must meet the following criteria: (1) a descendant of a family member who attended or graduated from RCTS; (2) a graduating senior enrolled in good academic standing at one of Randolph County's four public high schools; (3) submit an essay addressing the required topic; and (4) indicate a plan to enroll in a two or four-year college or career development training program.

RCTS Scholarship Essay Topic: The RCTS Scholarship essay should focus on the following topic: ***Why is voting important to the development and maintenance of democracy.*** The essay should not exceed two double spaced type-written pages. The essay should be carefully proofread.

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Applicant Information

Full name: _____

Phone number, mailing address and e-mail _____

Name of family member(s) who attended RCTS _____

High school
name _____

What is your cumulative GPA and in what extra-curricular activities have you participated?

What college/university or career development or training program will you attend? _____

Application Submission: Applications should be submitted on or before Thursday, April 16, 2026.
The application is available at: www.rctsfoundation.org or from your high school counselor.

Attach your essay to this form with a high resolution photo.

Alvin Thornton, Ph.D. (RCTS class of 1967)
Chair, RCTS Scholarship Fund (athornton1115@comcast.net)

Gene A. Thornton (RCTS class of 1962)
Treasurer, RCTS Scholarship Fund

*“Behind These Silent Walls” is the phrase Hattie P. Clark, former RCTS teacher, used to describe the community’s
reaction to the closing of RCTS in May of 1970.*