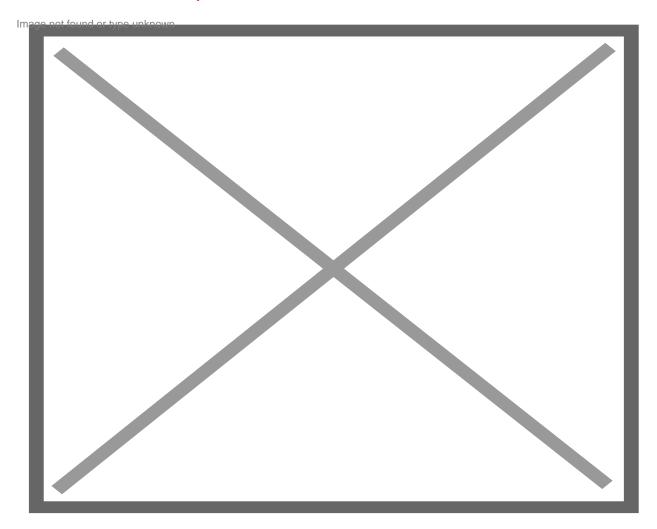
WAPA Announces Deadline for Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship Applications

Scholarship program open until February 26 for aspiring engineers

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The V.I. Water and Power Authority has reminded the public about the upcoming deadline for applications to the Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship program. This year, the annual program will accept applications until February 26.

This scholarship initiative aims to assist graduating high school seniors, as well as students in their freshman and sophomore years of college who intend to or are pursuing studies in engineering.

The authority will award up to \$60,000 to those seeking bachelor's degrees in engineering programs, and up to \$20,000 for associate's degree or technical studies in Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics Engineering or related fields.

Scholarships are available in each category per district, and eligibility criteria includes U.S. citizenship and a clean criminal record, according to the release.

Successful applicants will be selected based on academic achievement, standardized college admission test scores, community involvement, and performance in a panel interview, WAPA said. Furthermore, UVI applicants must be accepted into or enrolled in UVI's Engineering Program to qualify for the scholarship.

The financial assistance covers essential educational costs such as room and board, tuition, books, fees, and supplies.

The Alva C. McFarlane scholarship program aims to nurture young engineering talent for future roles within the public utility sector, according to a description of the program. WAPA said that over the years it has witnessed the positive impact of scholarship recipients who have returned to contribute their skills to the organization. Mr. McFarlane, a key figure in establishing the scholarship at WAPA, served the USVI's youth as the director of apprenticeship and training at the V.I. Department of Labor.

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