

2023 COMTO Future of Transportation Scholarship Program SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION – FALL 2023

Overview

The Northern California Chapter of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO NorCal) is a national, multi-ethnic professional organization founded in 1971 to advance the representation of minority professionals in the transportation industry, nurture their career growth through networking and training, and champion equitable transportation development. A cornerstone of COMTO's work is supporting the next generation of transportation professionals and providing financial support for students in need. This is COMTO NorCal's 20th Scholarship Awards Gala.

COMTO's annual Future of Transportation Scholarship Program is currently seeking applicants through **October 20, 2023** for scholarship awards of **\$2,000 – \$6,000 each**.

Eligibility

- Undergraduate and Graduate minorities who are California residents or are actively enrolled in an accredited community college or university in Northern California
- Demonstrated intent to pursue a career in transportation, including (but not limited to):
 - o Transportation Planning
 - o Transportation Engineering
 - o Mobility as a Service
 - o Public Policy
 - o Environmental Science
 - o Aviation Science
 - o Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - o Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
 - o Equal Opportunity in Contracting and Employment
 - o Business, Communications, Government Affairs, and related
- Demonstrated major or coursework in disciplines applicable to transportation including (but not limited to):
 - o Urban Design/Urban Planning
 - o Engineering: Civil, Construction, Mechanical, Electrical, Environmental
 - o Business: Communication, Economics, Public Health, Policy, IT
 - o Social Sciences: Political Science, Pre-law
 - o Aviation: Management, Aeronautics, Air Traffic Control (ATC), Professional Pilot

Requirements

- Applicants must have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or above.
- Community College students must be in a specific degree program or demonstrate intent to transfer to university.
- Undergraduate students must be beginning their sophomore, junior, or senior year.
- **Winners are encouraged to attend a COMTO event or meeting to receive the scholarship**
December 1, 2023, 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. Awards Program or meeting (virtual acceptable);
Scholarship funds will be mailed to the winners after the December 1 event
- **Students may receive scholarships a maximum of two times** from this COMTO chapter.

Application Process

Applicants must package and submit **all** the following:

- **Completed Student Application form.** (Item **A** below)
- **Letter of Motivation:** (Item **B** below, **250 – 500 words**)
- **Statement of Financial Need:** (Item **C** below, **250 – 500 words**)
- **College Transcripts** – (Item **D** below, most recent college transcript showing cumulative GPA)
- **Resume** (Item **E** below)
- **Two References** (Item **F** below) – From: (1) college instructor, counselor, or advisor and (2) professional, academic, or personal reference.

Note: Additional consideration will be given if your reference prepares a letter on letterhead paper from the organization with which they are affiliated.



A. STUDENT APPLICATION

(Please print or type)

1.	<u>Applicant Name</u>	
2.	<u>Current College/University</u>	
	<u>Campus City/State</u>	
3.	<u>College/University Major</u>	
4.	<u>Academic Status as of Oct. 1, 2023</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate student
5.	<u>Expected Graduation Date</u>	
6.	<u>Permanent Residence Phone Number</u>	
7.	<u>Permanent Residence Address</u>	
8.	<u>College/University Residence Address</u>	
9.	<u>Cell Phone Number</u>	
10.	<u>E-Mail Address</u>	
11.	Are you a resident of Northern California Areas (San Francisco Bay Area or Sacramento Area)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
12.	Do you currently attend school in Northern California Areas (San Francisco Bay Area or Sacramento Area)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

13. Are you currently a student member of COMTO?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, which Chapter?

14. How did you learn about COMTO? (25 – 50 words)

ANSWER:

15. How did you learn about the COMTO Scholarship?
(25 – 50 words)

ANSWER:

16. What have you done to demonstrate your
commitment to community(ies) of color? (50 – 150
words)

ANSWER:

17.	Have you been awarded a COMTO Scholarship in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	If yes, specify year received COMTO chapter (or national) awarding scholarship	
18.	Race/Ethnicity: (Note: Applicants must be African-American, Hispanic, Native-American, and Asian-American including Pacific Islander; select multiple if multiracial)	<input type="checkbox"/> African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian-American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander
19.	Gender Identity	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Nonbinary <input type="checkbox"/> Refuse to State
20.	Five sentence biography for use at December 1, 2023 Scholarship Award Gala if selected for award (include interest in COMTO and transportation)	
<i>Signature – I attest that all responses are accurate:</i>		
<i>Date:</i>		

List of Institutions of Higher Education Attended

Name and City/State of Institution	Dates of Attendance	Degree Earned	Date Awarded	Major

Number of Completed Credit Hours: _____

Current Grade Point Average (G.P.A.): _____

B. Letter of Motivation Essay – Think about what drives you to attend and complete college as well as pursue a career in transportation. In 250-500 words (double-spaced) address the following:

- Describe your life goals
- Describe your transportation-related career aspirations

C. Statement of Financial Need – Think about your financial situation. In 250-500 words (double-spaced) address the following:

- Explain how you are paying for college now.
- Explain difficulties you are having in meeting your needs.
- Talk about how you would benefit from the scholarship.

D. College Transcripts – Please send your most recent college transcripts. Include your entire college history with all grades. Transcript does not have to be an official transcript.

E. Resume – Provide a resume (up to 2 pages) that includes information on your work experience, volunteer activities, education, honors/awards received, and other interests.

F. References – At least one reference from a college instructor, counselor, or advisor. Additional letters from professional, academic, or personal references will be accepted. Letter of reference should answer the following questions:

- What is the reference's relationship to the applicant?
- When did the reference meet the applicant?
- What is the time period (month/year) that the reference has had knowledge of the applicant's work or character?
- How would the reference describe the quality of applicant's work?
- How would the reference describe the applicant's character?
- Why does the reference recommend the applicant for the scholarship?
- **CONFIDENTIALITY: Reference may provide the letter to the applicant (whether sealed or not) so that it may be submitted along with other application materials. If confidentiality is desired, return letter to applicant in sealed envelope or, send directly to COMTO of Northern California as follows:**

COMTO of Northern California – Scholarship Program
Attention: Scholarship Committee Chairperson – Reference for (insert applicant name)
PO BOX 71855
OAKLAND, CA 94612-8055

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application materials (including letters of reference) must be electronically date stamped or postmarked NO LATER THAN October 20, 2023



1. E-MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION IN PDF FORMAT TO:

info@comtonorcal.org

Subject: 2023 COMTO - Future of Transportation Scholarship Program- SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applicants: Thank you for your interest in the COMTO scholarship program.

If you have questions, email Kimberly Wilson COMTO NorCal Scholarship Chair at scholarships@comtonorcal.org

OR

2. MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

**COMTO of Northern California – Scholarship Program
Attention: Scholarship Committee Chairperson
PO BOX 71855
OAKLAND CA 94612-8055**

Applications must be postmarked by October 20 and received No Later Than Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at the COMTO NorCal PO BOX.

Please Note: scholarship recipients are encouraged to attend a COMTO meeting (in person or virtually) or the December 1, 2023, 6:00 – 9:30 p.m. Scholarship Gala at SF Marriott Marquis prior to receiving their award.