



ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED
DELTA OMICRON ZETA CHAPTER - BOSTON, MA



THE BARBARA J. DAWSON

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Leading and changing lives with service as the focal point

SCHOLARSHIP. SERVICE. SISTERHOOD. FINERWOMANHOOD

Background

ABOUT ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated is a non-profit, community conscious, action-oriented organization. Since its inception at Howard University on January 16, 1920, the women of this great sorority have been determined to exemplify and promote the sorority's ideals of Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood and Finer Womanhood, and continue the legacy of our five founders.

ABOUT DELTA OMICRON ZETA GRADUATE CHAPTER

Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter is the graduate chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated located in Boston, Massachusetts. The Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter was chartered in May 1942 and has provided service and leadership to the Boston community for over 80 years. Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter is comprised of college educated women who possess integrity, unmatched zeal for our mission, and commitment to strengthening the Boston community. The mission of Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter is to positively impact communities in Boston through meaningful service, collaboration, scholarship opportunities, and leadership development.

ABOUT BARBARA J. DAWSON

Barbara J. Dawson was an advocate for doing what is right and in the best interest of all mankind. Mrs. Dawson was involved in a car accident, shattering the lenses of her eyeglasses, which were made of real glass, and sending needlelike slivers of glass into both eyes, leaving her blinded.

After regaining her strength, and learning to live in a world without sight, Mrs. Dawson set her course to establish legislation in Massachusetts and on a federal level that would require the use of tough shatter-resistant material versus glass in the lenses of all eyeglasses. She spoke before legislators on Beacon Hill and wrote several articles on the topic. She fought, in writing and in person, until 1970 when the bill passed and she stood beside Governor Francis Sargent when he signed the momentous bill into Massachusetts state law. Mrs. Dawson was then invited to the White House in July 1970 where she again shared her story. On December 31, 1971, a federal law was passed that all glasses and sunglasses made and sold in America must be made of shatterproof, splinter-proof, laminated or heat-tempered glasses or plastic. Due to her tenacious efforts, in 1971 Mrs. Dawson was presented with a citation from the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

Mrs. Dawson attended Boston Girls Latin School (now known as Boston Latin School) and later attended Boston University where she received her Associate's and Bachelor's Degrees in Commercial Science, and Master's in Public Relations, as well as a certificate in Advanced Graduate Studies in Administration and Supervision.

In giving back to her community, Mrs. Dawson's activities included volunteering at the Freedom House, Community Change Inc., Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Resthaven Nursing Home, Middlesex County Cooperative Extension Service, Greater Boston Committee for UNICEF, the Cambridge YWCA, National YWCA, and many others. She sat on various executive boards and was President of the Board of Directors for several of these organizations.

Mrs. Dawson has many awards and accolades for her work such as the Drylongso Award from Community Change Inc. of Boston in 1996, Boston Latin School naming her their outstanding Alumnae in 1998, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated recognized her in 1975 for her work in passing legislation for safety glasses, as well as 50 plus years of service in her Sorority. Mrs. Dawson was a Life Member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated and member of Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter in Boston, Massachusetts. Mrs. Dawson passed away in July 2022. We honor her for her service and for exemplifying the principles on which our sisterhood was founded.

Barbara J. Dawson Scholarship Overview

In honor of our trailblazing chapter member Barbara J. Dawson, the ladies of the Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter are recognizing an outstanding student preparing for college. The Barbara J. Dawson Scholarship is a one-time award in the amount of \$2,500 that will be rewarded to an applicant who exemplifies the type of scholarship and service for which Mrs. Dawson stood.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a graduating female high school senior who is a permanent resident of Boston, Massachusetts
- Must have at least a 3.25 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale
- Must submit a college/university letter of acceptance
- Must submit a complete application with all required components and documentation

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION PACKET

A completed application must be comprised of the following items:

- Two letters of recommendation from the following:
 - High School Teacher or Guidance Counselor
 - Community Leader or Church Official (*who has observed and/or coordinated with the applicant on community service projects in which the applicant participated*)
 - Employer
- An OFFICIAL High School Transcript
- Personal Essay (no more than 250 words)
 - This personal essay should consist of background information relative to your educational and professional goals and how your goals correlate to one or more principles of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.
 - Please address why you feel that you should be chosen and the manner in which this scholarship will help you achieve your academic aspirations.
- Narrative Essay (no more than a total of 500 words)

Please answer the following question(s) to the best of your ability:

 - What personal challenge/experience have you had to overcome?
 - How were you able to inspire change and bring hope to your community and others by overcoming this challenge or experience?

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- Completed application must be submitted by May 18, 2024.
- Please note, if you are selected as the recipient of this scholarship, you must submit a letter verifying full-time status and enrollment of college/university no later than October 1, 2024 to Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter in order to receive the funding.

Barbara J. Dawson Scholarship Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Applicant Name

(Last) (First) (Middle)

Parent/Legal Guardian Name

(Name) (Relation)

Permanent Address

Are you a resident of Boston, MA? Yes No

How long have you resided in Boston, MA? _____

Place of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Email Address _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of High School Currently Attending

Anticipated Graduation Date _____

Current High School GPA (on a 4.0 scale) _____

Class Rank _____ of _____

Counselor/Advisor Name _____

Counselor/Advisor Contact Information

(Email Address)

(Phone Number)

AWARDS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

List of Colleges/Universities Applied/Accepted to

List Your Current Extracurricular Activities

List Any Honors, Achievements, and/or Recognitions You Have Received

Leadership Skills

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Please list community service projects in which you have participated in the past year.

Name of Organization	Brief Description of Activity	Primary Responsibilities	Dates (month/year) Start - End

PERSONAL ESSAY (250 WORDS MAX)

This personal essay should consist of background information relative to your educational and professional goals and how your goals correlate to one or more principles of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. Additionally, please address why you feel that you should be chosen and the manner in which this scholarship will help you achieve your academic aspirations.

NARRATIVE ESSAY (500 WORDS MAX)

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability:

- What personal challenge/experience have you had to overcome?
- How were you able to inspire change and bring hope to your community and others by overcoming this challenge or experience?

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND COMPLETE. I understand that withholding information requested or giving false information may make me ineligible to receive the Barbara J. Dawson Scholarship. If selected to receive the Barbara J. Dawson Scholarship, I give Delta Omicron Zeta Chapter permission to release my name, institution, essay, and photograph for promotional purposes.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____