



**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (GERS)
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION for the year 2012**

The Government Employees' Retirement System (GERS) is currently accepting scholarship applications from territorial high school students who are dependents of contributing members of GERS. Scholarships will provide tuition support for four years, to students enrolled full-time in a program leading to the award of a bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university. Up to three scholarships will be awarded.

The GERS Scholarships may be used at any accredited college or university.

GERS Scholarships being offered to 2012 high school graduates will be in the amount of \$2,250 per semester (\$4,500 per year).

The GERS Scholarship is administered by the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

- GERS Complex, Veterans Drive, St. Thomas or on the website: **www.usvigiers.com**
- GERS Complex, Estate Orange Grove, Christiansted, St. Croix
- Connections of St. John, Cruzbay
- On the CFVI website: **www.cfvi.net**
- Or by calling the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands at 774-6031.

Schedule of Scholarship Application Process:

- 1) Completed applications and all accompanying documentation must be **postmarked no later than FRIDAY, March 16, 2012** and mailed to:

Chairperson, GERS Scholarship Committee
Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands
P.O. Box 11790
St. Thomas, USVI 00801

- 2) The scholarships will be awarded by the Board of Directors of the Government Employees' Retirement System

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Qualifications:

To qualify for a Government Employees' Retirement System (GERS) Scholarship, a student must:

- have a parent, step-parent or legal guardian who is a participating member of GERS;
- be accepted into an accredited four-year institution with a program leading to a bachelor's degree;
- have the equivalent of a 3.0 cumulative grade point average from a USVI secondary school;
- demonstrate financial need.

Application Procedures:

This completed application must be accompanied by **ALL** the following supporting documentation:

- _____ Most recent official high school transcript (copy of current semester grades should be submitted as soon as available)
- _____ Birth or baptismal certificate
- _____ Recent passport type photograph (signing this form consents to use the photo if the student is awarded a scholarship)
- _____ Certified 2011 tax return(s) if available (a copy) or Certified 2010 tax return(s) for parents/guardians and/or student (as applicable)
- _____ Financial aid award letter from college (if not available at deadline, submit as soon as received*)
- _____ Two letters of reference (one must be an academic reference)
- _____ An essay of about 500 words written by the applicant discussing your passions or aspirations in life.

Proof of Financial Need:

The financial statement including income, expenses, debts, and other financial data necessary for proof of the student's financial eligibility for scholarship aid, must be completed by parents, step-parents or legal guardians as appropriate. **Financial information will be strictly confidential.**

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS WITH **ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION** MUST BE MAILED IN A SEALED ENVELOPE TO:

Chairperson, GERS Scholarship Committee
Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands
P.O. Box 11790
St. Thomas, USVI 00801

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN
FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012.**

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Proposed Budget of Applicant for 2012/2013 Academic Year (*must be completed*)

A. STUDENT'S AVAILABLE FUNDS:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Annual family contribution _____ | 4. Student savings _____ |
| 2. Student earnings, summer _____ | 5. Total Student loans _____ |
| 3. Student earnings, school yr _____ | 6. Scholarships/grants etc. _____ |
| 7. Other (explain) _____ | |
| TOTAL A (Sum of 1-7) _____ | |

B. EXPECTED EXPENSES:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Tuition (annual) _____ | 4. Fees & Dues _____ |
| 2. Room & Board _____ | 5. Travel _____ |
| 3. Books & Supplies _____ | 6. Other (explain) _____ |
| TOTAL B (Sum of 1-6) _____ | |

FUNDING NEEDED: (subtract Total B from Total A): \$ _____

List financial aid/grants/scholarships you have received or for which you have applied

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |
| 2. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |
| 3. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |
| 4. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |

List loans received or for which you have applied

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |
| 2. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |
| 3. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |
| 4. _____ | \$ _____ | applied _____ | received _____ |

List funds Available from any other Source not listed above

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | \$ _____ | per year |
| 2. _____ | \$ _____ | per year |
| 3. _____ | \$ _____ | per year |

**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (GERS)
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Will you work this summer? Yes/No Where _____

If yes, how much will you earn? \$ _____ (enter on page 4)

If you will not be working this summer, what will you do?

Will you work during the school year? Yes / No Where _____

If yes, how much will you earn? \$ _____ (enter on page 4)

List previous places of employment _____

List all extracurricular activities, including community service:

Discuss the one activity that means the most to you.

Please submit an essay of about 500 words discussing your passions or aspirations in life.

If granted an award, I understand that should I receive sufficient other assistance or if my financial status improves significantly, I have a moral obligation to advise the Scholarship Committee so that that grant may be used to assist some other deserving and needy student.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Applicant must sign in order to qualify)

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CONFIDENTIAL

Part II - To be completed by parents or guardians (Please print all information).

Name of student for whom application is made: _____

Parent/step-parent/guardian who is a member of GERS: _____

Does student receive Social Security Benefits? Yes / No \$_____ per year

How long is the applicant eligible for the above benefits? _____ Years or _____ months

Father or Male Guardian: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Employer's Address: _____

Citizen of _____ Years Resided in the Virgin Islands _____

Total earnings of father or male guardian for 2011 (before taxes) \$_____

Anticipated earnings for 2012 before taxes: \$_____

Mother or Female Guardian: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Employer's Address: _____

Citizen of _____ Years Resided in the Virgin Islands _____

Total earnings of mother or female guardian for 2011 (before taxes) \$_____

Anticipated earnings for 2012 before taxes: \$_____

Dependent children of parents (or of applicant, if applicant is financially independent):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Tuition/fees</u>	<u>Parent's Share</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

