



Kathy Espinoza-Howard Scholarship for Santa Clara County Housing Authority Residents

The Santa Clara County Housing Authority (SCCHA) offers the Kathy Espinoza-Howard Scholarship program to provide post-secondary educational financial assistance for Housing Choice Voucher participants or tenants of rental properties owned or affiliated with the Housing Authority. Top-scoring applicants will receive at least \$1,000, with a chance to receive up to \$5,000!

Eligibility Guidelines:

- Applicants must be Housing Choice Voucher participants or tenants of a rental property owned by or affiliated with SCCHA
- Part or full-time status starting in Fall 2025
- New, current, and returning college or vocational students
- No age or GPA restrictions

Application Checklist:


We can only review applications that include all required items. Please verify that each of the following items are filled out and included:

- Fully completed application
- Personal Essay
- One (1) Letter of Recommendation dated within the last 12 months of application submission

Application Deadline:

April 30th, 2025 - applications received after the due date will not be accepted.

Submit Completed Application:

By Mail or In-Person	Apply Online (Preferred Method)
Santa Clara County Housing Authority ATTN: Scholarship 505 W. Julian Street San Jose, CA 95110	scchousingauthority.org/scholarship 

Important Notice to Scholarship Applicants!

Top-scoring scholarship applicants will have the opportunity to apply for a total award of up to \$5,000, which will be granted to one recipient. Details will be provided directly to those who qualify.

If you have questions, please call 408-993-3026 or email scholarship@scchousingauthority.org.

Kathy Espinoza-Howard Scholarship Application 2025-2026

Personal Information

First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Home Work Cell

Email Address _____

Which of these applies to you? (select only one)

I am a member of a SCCHA Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher household (Tenant Code _____)

I am a resident of a SCCHA owned or affiliated property (Property Name _____)

Does your family participate in the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) program? Yes No

Are you a previous Kathy Espinoza Howard Scholarship Recipient? Yes No

If yes, in what year(s) were you awarded? _____

Education

Are you currently attending or planning on attending one of the following?

Vocational School Community College College or University

Graduate School/Medical School/Certificate Program, etc.

Please provide the name of the college/university/vocational school you are attending in Fall 2025:

Name of Educational Institution _____

City and State of Educational Institution _____

Please list your major/minor or certification or vocational program for Fall 2025:

I hereby consent to the use of my name and/or reproduction of video and/or photography by Santa Clara County Housing Authority (SCCHA) for marketing programs and services. I also understand that SCCHA may print my information/story in the media, including but not limited to newsletters, programs, social media, and brochures. I understand that I will not receive any compensation from SCCHA for this purpose, and I hold SCCHA harmless from any actions resulting from the release of my limited personal information. Please contact scholarship@scchousingauthority.org if you do not wish to grant permission or if you are 17 years or under.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Kathy Espinoza-Howard Scholarship Application 2025-2026

Required Attachments

Personal Essay

On a separate page, the personal essay should answer the following questions:

- Describe a significant challenge you have faced in your academic, professional, or personal life. How did you navigate this challenge, and what lessons did you learn that will help you achieve your future goals?

All essays will be judged on clarity of expression, content, composition and originality. Please limit essay to one page maximum.

Letter of Recommendation

Along with the application, one (1) letter of recommendation is required. This letter can come from an employer, teacher, clergy person, etc. The person writing the recommendation cannot be a family member. The recommendation should address the following questions:

- What is your relationship to the applicant?
- Why would you recommend this applicant for a scholarship award?
- Is there any other information you think would be important for our consideration?

Please limit letter to one page maximum. Letter should be dated within the last 12 months.