



# Bishop Antonio Thomas Memorial Scholarship Application

**EILM Office of Scholarships  
Columbus Christian Center Church  
Spirit of Life Church International  
2300 N. Cassady Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43219  
(614) 416-9673  
[www.eilm.org](http://www.eilm.org)**

## **PURPOSE**

The Bishop Antonio D. Thomas Memorial Scholarship is a scholarship program sponsored by Ever Increasing Life Ministries (EILM). Two scholarships will be awarded each academic year to recipients who demonstrate the spiritual, academic, leadership and/or athletic excellence of Bishop Thomas.

Each year, a minimum of two students will be designated Bishop Antonio Thomas Scholars -- one member of Columbus Christian Center Church and one member of Spirit of Life Church International. The recipients may use the scholarships to attend a post-secondary school, college, or university within the United States. The field of study is all inclusive but must fit the guidelines set forth by the EILM scholarship office.

## **BIOGRAPHY OF BISHOP ANTONIO D. THOMAS**

Bishop Antonio D. Thomas was educated through the Martinsville City School System where he was blessed to receive a football scholarship to James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He received a B. B. A. degree in Business Administration from James Madison University in February of 1986. In 1988, Bishop Thomas received the Graduate College Teaching Certificate from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Bishop Thomas received the Masters of Biblical Counseling and the Doctor of Ministry from the Friends International Christian University. On May 22, 1999, Bishop Thomas received the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the Faith Bible College and Seminary in Washington, D.C. He also received the Doctor of Divinity from the Bethlehem Bible College.

Ministerially, Bishop Thomas served as the Director for the Student Christian Outreach Ministries of James Madison University. He pastored the New Hope Baptist Church in Charlottesville, Virginia; the Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Roanoke, Virginia and served as the Founder and Pastor of Spirit of Life Church International located in Roanoke, Virginia from 1995-2004. Bishop Thomas was also an anointed author and in July of 2004, he released his first book entitled, The Power of One Thing. This book is laced with powerful Kingdom keys and principles to help you discover the "One Thing" God has instructed you to do, to unlock your everything!

Bishop Thomas served as the Southern Atlantic Regional Bishop, where he oversaw the states of VA, NC, SC, GA, and FL for the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship, where Bishop Paul S. Morton, Sr. is the International Presiding Bishop. Bishop Thomas was married to Barbara Coleman Thomas of Chesapeake, Virginia. They are blessed with two daughters, Sonya Judea and Kayla Victoria, and one son, Michael Antonio. On November 10, 2004, Bishop Thomas suddenly went home to be with the Lord, received his crown and is now with our Heavenly Father in Glory.



# Bishop Antonio Thomas Memorial Scholarship Application

## CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Each year, a maximum of two students will be designated Bishop Antonio Thomas Scholars -- one member of Columbus Christian Center Church and one member of Spirit of Life Church International. The recipients may use the scholarships to attend a post-secondary school, college, or university within the United States. The field of study is all inclusive but must fit the guidelines set forth by the EILM scholarship office.

- Applicant must be a full, active member of one of the two EILM Churches – Columbus Christian Center Church and Spirit of Life Church International -- for at least ONE year prior to applying.
- Applicant must be a high school graduate or a full-time college student.
- Applicant must be accepted or enrolled in a full-time post-secondary school degree or certificate program.
- Applicant must have a grade point average of **3.0 (B)** or higher in the most recent year of school.
- Applicant must have submitted a complete application and all requested documentation by the deadline date.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **COMPLETE** – every question and section of application must be completed in full.
2. **TRANSCRIPT** – specific information is listed in Part V, 25 within the application.
3. **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** – special instructions for each letter are listed Part V, 26 within the application.
4. **ESSAY** – on a separate piece of paper, write an essay as indicated in Part V, 27 of this application.
5. **VERIFICATION** – of enrollment from recipient's school registrar.
6. Applications **NOT** completed by the Deadline Date will **NOT** be taken to the Scholarship Award Committee.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications are screened and a final selection of recipients is made by the Scholarship Committee. Finalists are interviewed by the Scholarship Committee and are expected to participate in an oral essay presentation. Scholarship winners are selected on the basis of their application, essay presentation, interview and demonstrated character of Bishop Antonio D. Thomas.

## SELECTION AND AWARD PROCESS

Applications are available from the EILM Office of Scholarships. Awards are made for one academic year and distributed in two installments. The amount of the award is determined by funds available and the decision of the Awards Review Committee based on its review of the application and all required documents.

## PROVISIONS FOR RENEWEL

Past recipients may reapply by completing the full application process.



# Bishop Antonio Thomas Memorial Scholarship Application

## PART I: Personal Information (Please PRINT)

1. NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI
2. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip
3. E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
4. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_(Home) (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_(Cell)
5. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ 6. DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_
7. GENDER: \_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_ Female 8. MARITAL STATUS: \_\_ Single \_\_ Married
9. RACE/ETHNICITY:  
\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ Black \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic  
\_\_\_\_ Native American \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_ White  
\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II: Attendance at Institutions of Higher Learning

10. Institutions of Higher Education Attended (List Most Recent First):

Institution	Dates (mm/yy- mm/yy)	Major	Degree Earned (Y/N)	G.P.A.
High School:				



# Bishop Antonio Thomas Memorial Scholarship Application

11. List any academic honors, awards, etc., you have received:

---

---

---

12. What factors, if any, should be taken into consideration in evaluating your academic record?

---

---

---

## **PART III: Upcoming School Year**

13. POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL you plan to attend during this upcoming scholarship year:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

14. ACADEMIC CLASSIFICATION (during scholarship year):

Freshman     Sophomore     Junior     Senior

15. Hours required for FULL-TIME STATUS at your school: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be enrolled full time? \_\_\_\_\_ If not enrolled full time, why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

16. Will you be enrolled in ONLINE COURSES?  Yes  No

17. Expected College Graduation Date (Month and Year) \_\_\_\_\_

18. Expected Degree/Certification (e.g., BS, BA, AS, AA, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

19. What is your intended career field? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Will you be working during the scholarship year?  Yes  No



# Bishop Antonio Thomas Memorial Scholarship Application

## PART IV: Church Involvement

21. Are you a full and active member of The Ever Increasing Life Ministries? ( ) YES ( ) NO

22. Name of the EILM Church where you are currently an active member:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church

23. What is the date (Month and Year) you became a full member of the EILM \_\_\_\_\_?

24. Have you received a previous scholarship award (s) administered by the EILM Scholarship Office? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what academic year(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

## PART V: Required Documentation

### 25. TRANSCRIPT

Official transcript reflecting your most recent academics work must be submitted with your application (*original printed on school letterhead & in sealed envelope - no copies*).

### 26. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Enter the name and relationship of the persons writing your letters of recommendation in the blanks below. All the letters of recommendation should be SIGNED and enclosed in separate sealed envelopes with your application. A minimum of one letter from each of the two categories listed below is required.

1. **Active lay person in your church** who knows you well (e.g., Helps Ministry Coordinator/ Team Leader, Campus Minister, Lay Leader, Church Council Chair, SS Teacher, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Lay Member of Church

2. **Professional Person** who has instructed you in the most recent academic year (e.g. teacher/college professor, instructor, coach, recent employer, etc.).

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Teacher/Professor/Coach



# Bishop Antonio Thomas Memorial Scholarship Application

## 27. ESSAY

**GUIDELINES:** Attach an **ESSAY in 500 words or less** describing your spiritual, academic, leadership and athletic excellence during the past three years, including your current activities and goals as follows:

- Leadership responsibilities and involvement in your EILM Church.
- Activities and/or responsibilities in your high school and community
- Your education goals and how achievement of these goals will provide leadership for the Body of Christ and society; and how it will improve the quality of life of others
- College students should show evidence of leadership in religious activities through their campus ministry/ chaplaincy.

***Note: Past recipients should submit a new essay. See Scholarship Coordinator for details.***

## **PART VI: Application Pledge**

I understand that to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is correct and complete. I understand it is *my responsibility* to ensure all requested documents (transcript, letters of recommendation, essay, etc.) are received by the Scholarship Office by the deadline date.

Signature of applicant in full:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **PART VI: Application Pledge**

**TO THE APPLICANT:** Incomplete applications will not be considered for review. Read questions carefully to eliminate delays and the possibility of your application not being reviewed. Before mailing your application papers, read and check off the following:

- Have you answered EVERY question and/or written a response in every blank on the application?
- Have you listed your EILM Church membership date (month & year)?
- Is your official transcript enclosed?
- Are letters of recommendation signed and enclosed in separate, sealed envelopes?
- Have you enclosed your ESSAY?
- Are you aware of the Deadline date? (See Front of Application)
- Is application signed?