

## **The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Minnesota BECA Scholarship Application**

HCCM is a well-managed, national award-winning-nonprofit community and economic development organization that provides training, technical assistance, workforce development, homeownership counseling, financial literacy and other resources to Latino individuals and entrepreneurs. It is managed by 10 unpaid, all professional Latino Board of Directors and presently has over 300 members. We are affiliate members of US Hispanic Chamber, the National Council of La Raza, the MN Council of Nonprofits, the Better Business Bureau, MN Dept. of Revenue, and have many other state, regional and local resource partners. We have a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the SBA (Small Business Administration) to increase the number of loans to Latino's. The HCCM is serviced by over seventy-seven volunteers that manage our five (5) Program Areas; among the best known is the "Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Minnesota". We were incorporated in July of 2000, and opened our Minneapolis office in October of that year.

Latinos in Minnesota come from many countries other than Mexico, they include Guatemala, El Salvador, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic. Of the more than 36 million person of Hispanic/Latino heritage that live in the United States just over 215,000 people make the state of Minnesota their home. In the West North Central sector of the Midwest region, only Kansas has a larger Latino population than Minnesota.

Today, Latinos comprise the largest ethnic minority group in Minnesota, positioning it among the top ten states nationally in terms of Hispanic population growth and sixth in the nation for fastest growing economically and in buying power.

### **PURPOSE**

Through the HCCM BECA Scholarship Program, our organization provides mentoring, networking and financial assistance to students committed to serving the Hispanic/Latino community, including students of Hispanic origin. HCCM will grant scholarships in the amount up to \$1,000.

## HCCM BECA (SCHOLARSHIP) APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please read instructions and general information before completing the application.  
Responses to all Items must be typed or printed clearly.

Applicant's Name:

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Review the HCCM Beca scholarship requirements in order to determine your eligibility. Carefully review and complete the application documents (Items D, E, and F), and enclose the following items (check off when obtained):

1.  Personal statement (Item A)
2.  Most current college transcripts (Item B)
3.  Signed and dated BECA scholarship application.
4.  2 Letters of Recommendation (Item C)
4.  I will submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by either filing the Online application or submitting a hard-copy (paper version) by August 15.

### REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed applications must be postmarked or received no later than September 1st.
2. All applicants must have graduated from a U.S. High School or GED/HSED program
3. All applicants must be Minnesota residents.
4. All applicants must have at least 50% Hispanic/Latino ancestry.
5. Provide proof of enrollment as a full-time Junior or Senior student at a recognized/credentialed Minnesota higher education institution for the academic year for which financial aid is being sought.
6. Application materials will not be returned to applicant after submission.
7. Mail completed application to:  
HCCM  
Beca Selection Committee  
3000 North 2nd St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55411

#### A. Personal Statement:

Please attach a one- to two-page personal statement addressed to the HCCM Beca Selection Committee. Substitute personal statements addressed to other institutional admission or selection committees will not be considered. Please address all the following in your statement:

1. Family and community background, including connection to Hispanic heritage, culture and traditions
2. Achievements
3. Extracurricular activities
4. Career goals
5. Need for this scholarship and any other information relevant to this application

B. Transcript:

Applicant's most recent high school transcript or recent college unofficial transcript must accompany this application.

C. 2 Letters of Recommendation from a teacher, community members or other persons familiar with your academic and/or community action accomplishments.

D. Personal Information:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

4. E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, MN Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

6. U.S. Citizen or Perm. Resident:  Yes  No Minnesota Resident:  Yes  No

7. Spanish fluency:  Yes  No If Yes,  Speak  Read  Write

8. Name of organization/source from which you received this application:  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. High School Graduate? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If yes, high school

attended \_\_\_\_\_

If no, which of the following do you hold? \_\_\_ GED \_\_\_ HSED

10. Are you currently enrolled/accepted in a college/university?  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Academic Degree Sought? \_\_\_\_\_

12. How many credits do you plan to earn per year? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Have you ever applied/received any scholarships? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If yes, please list name and amount below:

Scholarship	Amount
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

14. Class standing for upcoming college academic year

Junior       Senior

E. Financial Statement:

Please complete the following information as thoroughly as possible since the HCCM Beca Selection Committee considers the applicant's financial situation an important element in determining scholarship awards. This information does not replace the need to file a Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA).

1. Applicant's annual earnings for the present calendar year:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Applicant's marital status:  Single  Married  Single Parent

3. If married or single parent, number of dependents: \_\_\_\_\_

4. If married, spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's annual income level:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_