



Samuel L. Abrams, a Harrisburg businessman, distinguished himself during a lifetime of participation in the Harrisburg community through philanthropic, social and political activities. Born in Lithuania, Mr. Abrams was brought to the United States and Harrisburg at the age of three by his parents. He attended city schools, graduating from Harrisburg Technical High School in 1922. After obtaining his degree from Penn State, he joined B. Abrams & Sons, the scrap metal processing firm that his father, brother and he founded. When Mr. Abrams attended Harrisburg Tech, he had taken a commercial curriculum because he had not believed that his family could afford to send him to college. At his graduation, though, when he realized that most of his friends were going on to college, he decided that he wanted to go as well. By the time he graduated from Penn State in 1926, he had been instilled with a strong appreciation for the value of college education.

In 1966, shortly after completing eight years as a member of the board of Directors of the Harrisburg School District, Mr. Abrams established the Samuel L. Abrams Foundation to help deserving graduates and faculty members of the Harrisburg school system further their education and obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Must be employed by the Harrisburg School District
2. Following a course of study to improve professional skills, ability, and understanding
3. Agreement to sign a statement committing applicant to continue on the faculty or staff of Harrisburg School District for a minimum of 2 years after completion of the desired course of study
4. Financial need

HOW TO APPLY

The application process is online. [Click here](#) to access the online application.

If you are signing back in to complete your application, please [click here](#).

Before accessing the application, be prepared to attach the following items:

1. Other Scholarship Information: [Click here](#) to download the fill-in Word document that you should complete, save, and attach to your application.
2. Student Resume: [Click here](#) to download the fill-in Word document that you should complete, save, and attach to your application.
3. FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR): Please attach the report in its entirety. This report must include the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). Please be aware that the SAR is **not** the same as the Summary Report. In addition to the SAR, you may also provide a letter with information you believe will be useful in determining your financial need (e.g., family and student income). Are there extenuating circumstances of which we should be aware? For example, illness in the family, loss of employment, or other relevant information?

The following requirements must be mailed. They will not be accepted electronically.

1. Letters of reference from the Superintendent and Principal of the school in the Harrisburg School District with which you are employed. ***References should be sealed in an envelope and should not be opened by the student. All reference letters must remain confidential.***
2. Student Financial Aid Information. We will need a copy of your **tuition bill** as well as your **financial aid information**. Often, these two items are listed on a bill together. If they are not listed on the bill together, you will need to submit the items separately.
3. Signed statement agreeing to continue on the faculty or staff of the Harrisburg School District for a minimum of two years after completion of study for which the assistance is granted.

Please do not submit items that have not been requested. Any additional paperwork submitted that has not been requested will be shredded. It is not necessary to mail items that have already been submitted electronically.

It is your responsibility to ensure that these requirements are received by the deadline. They ***must be received*** by the deadline, ***not postmarked***. Students are encouraged to mail all of these requirements together in one large envelope to:

The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
Samuel L. Abrams Foundation Professional Program
Attn: Thomas Bradley, Scholarship Associate
200 N. 3rd Street, 8th Floor
PO Box 678
Harrisburg, PA 17108-0678

RENEWABILITY

This scholarship is a onetime only award; however recipients are eligible to reapply throughout the program. Each year begins a new process and receipt of financial aid from the foundation in prior years is no assurance of receiving financial aid in the future.