



A Publication of the Carter Parramore High Alumni Scholarship Fund, Inc.
3415 W. Lake Mary Blvd., Unit 952528, Lake Mary, FL 32795
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The Carter-Parramore Scholarship: A Pathway to Higher Education for Gadsden County Students

By JaLia Randolph, Professional School Counselor, Gadsden County High School

The Carter-Parramore High Alumni Scholarship has become a beacon of opportunity for graduates of Gadsden County High School (GCHS). Established by alumni of Carter-Parramore High School, the scholarship provides financial support to students pursuing higher education at four-year universities. Since its inception in 2021, the scholarship have helped students overcome financial barriers and achieve their academic goals.

When connecting with former recipients of this scholarship, Brian Ward, Class of 2023, stated, “The Carter-Parramore scholarship helped me in a multitude of ways. The biggest impact was keeping me above water financially. This helped me have additional funds for laptops, iPads, notebooks, etc. The scholarship also helped keep me in college because I would have had to take out a loan without it and go into debt. For that I am forever grateful.”

We also spoke to Amarielle Lawson, Class of 2024, about how this scholarship has benefited her during her first year of college: “As a first-generation college student, receiving the Carter Parramore Scholarship has been a tremendous help in my academic journey. It has alleviated financial burdens, allowing me to focus on my studies and extracurricular activities without added stress. Beyond financial support, this scholarship has played a vital role in shaping my path and providing the foundation I need to succeed. It has given me the opportunity to grow, learn, and strive towards my ultimate goal of becoming a lawyer. With this support, I feel even more motivated to excel and use my education to make a meaningful impact. I am truly grateful for this investment in my future success.”

Empowering Students Through Financial Support

Recognizing the challenges many students face in affording college, the Carter-Parramore Scholarship awards \$5,000 to students enrolling in STEM fields and \$2,500 to those pursuing degrees in liberal arts, business, education, journalism, or health sciences. These funds significantly reduce the financial burden of tuition, making higher education more accessible to GCHS graduates.

Changing the Culture of Higher Education Aspiration

When the scholarship was first introduced, many students were hesitant to apply due to the rigorous requirements, including a 1,000-word essay. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic had left many students disengaged from academic pursuits, with some opting to enter the workforce instead of pursuing college. To address this, GCHS administrators and counselors worked towards fostering a college-going culture. Through post-secondary workshops, college fairs, and mentorship programs, students became more aware of their potential and the opportunities available to them.

Adapting to Meet Student Needs

Understanding the need for accessibility, the scholarship committee collaborated with school counselors to revise the application criteria. The essay requirement was reduced to 500-1,000 words, and the GPA requirement was adjusted from 3.5 to 3.2, ensuring that more students could qualify.

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These changes resulted in a significant increase in applications, demonstrating the importance of adaptability in meeting students' needs. The Carter-Parramore Scholarship continues to be a transformative force for GCHS graduates, encouraging them to pursue higher education and achieve their career aspirations.

By investing in students today, the scholarship fund is shaping the leaders of tomorrow and reinforcing the legacy of giving back to the community. As more students seize this opportunity, the scholarship will remain a vital resource for those striving to build brighter futures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Ms. Randolph, a product of the Gadsden County School System, is a graduate of East Gadsden High School. She completed her undergraduate studies at Florida A&M University and received her master's in Counselor Education from the University of Central Florida. She has worked as a school counselor at Gadsden County High School for four years. Ms. Randolph lives in Quincy with her family that also shares a background in education, and aspires for all Gadsden County students to obtain success beyond high school.

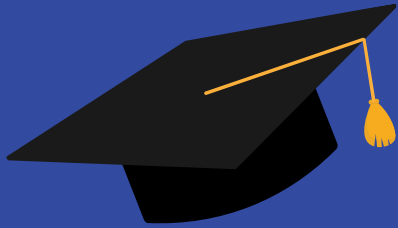
From the Desk of the President

Let me begin by offering, on behalf of the Board, our thanks to the 2024 scholarship donors. Your contributions made a major impact on our ability to award scholarships to nine Gadsden County High School graduates. I want to welcome to our Board of Directors Mrs. Kamini Narine. Mrs. Narine will expand upon the fiscal expertise of the current Board. You may have observed that James Milton is no longer a member of our Board. He relinquished his membership in 2024 for personal reasons. We all owe many thanks to Jim, as a founding member of The Fund, for his expertise, dedication and commitment to the cause. Although he is no longer a member of the Board, he continues to provide financial support for the effort.

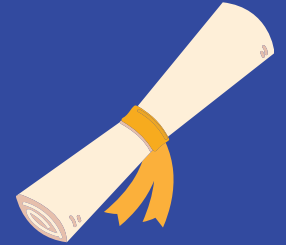
The Spring 2025 edition of our Newsletter is forwarded as an electronic document. Since the inception of The Fund, the cost for printing and mailing two newsletters a year has more than doubled. Therefore, the Board voted unanimously to move to one electronic and one printed newsletter a year. We plan to provide a printed document for the Fall, 2025 edition.

In closing, let me draw your attention to the expected presentation of scholarship awards to selected members of the Gadsden County High School May 2025 graduating class. Applications are in the hands of the students and are due April 7, 2025. We anticipate a growing number of applicants. For this reason, we strongly encourage each of our readers to make a generous donation to The Fund. It is only with your support that we are able to provide financial assistance to awardees. As stated in previous communications, all donations are tax deductible. We look forward to hearing from you!

Franklin D. Hamilton
President



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College Scholarships

for Gadsden County High School Seniors

\$5000



for 1 year of study in
any STEM discipline

\$2500



for 1 year of study in
any other discipline

Applicants Must:

- Have at least a 3.2 GPA
- Submit during the application period:
 - February 1st - April 17th, 2025
 - Awardees announced May, 2025



Provided by:

Carter-Parramore High
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For more information visit:
carter-parramorescholarshipfund.com

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