



# **CUNY SCHOOL OF LABOR AND URBAN STUDIES**

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

## **The Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor Program Promoting Diversity and Excellence in Union Leadership and Labor Studies**

**For students seeking an M.A. in Labor Studies or a B.A. in Urban and Community Studies,  
with a concentration in Labor**

### **Mission and Goals**

Over the past 50 years, demographics of the U.S. labor force have changed significantly, with dramatic increases in the number of women and people of color. The racial and gender composition of national union leadership, however, does not adequately reflect these changing demographics. The field of Labor Studies reflects a similar imbalance in representation.

The Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor program for excellence and diversity in labor is dedicated to the purpose of fostering new and diverse leadership in the labor movement and in the academic discipline of Labor Studies. In supporting students committed to diversity and excellence, the scholarship program seeks to make a significant contribution toward redressing existing imbalances in these fields.

### **Scholarship Awards**

Awardees will receive:

- Up to \$30,000 awarded over two years for graduate study
- Up to \$20,000 awarded over two years for undergraduate study

Students are encouraged to enroll such that their course of study will be completed within the two-year funding period of the award. Awards are offered in the fall semester of each academic year and are renewable, contingent on maintenance of good academic standing. Transcripts and Financial Aid information will be reviewed and enrollment will be verified to ensure that recipients continue to meet scholarship eligibility requirements. Award amounts may vary from semester to semester, depending on the recipients' enrollment status.

### **Terms and Conditions of the Scholarship**

Scholarship awards will be based on a national competition and are designed to create pathways that will bring women and people of color to the forefront of the labor movement. Specifically, the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor is dedicated to the purpose of fostering new, diverse, and representative leadership in the labor movement and in the academic discipline of Labor Studies. To that end, applicants should be part of an underrepresented minority in the field of labor and should have demonstrated a commitment to diversity in the field of labor.

### **Deadline Date for Filing the Scholarship Application**

The deadline date for submission of the scholarship application is **March 17, 2020**.

### **Deadline Date for submitting the Early Admissions Application**

In order to be eligible for a 2020 Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor, new applicants for admission to either the [MA in Labor Studies](#) or the [BA in Urban and Community Studies](#) must have their complete early admissions application submitted no later than February 25, 2020.

**In order to be considered for admissions, accompanying required letters of recommendation must be received no later than February 25, 2020 at 11:59 pm.**

### **Scholarships and College Financial Aid**

If awarded a scholarship, applicants must complete a 2020-2021 [FAFSA](#) form to determine the impact this scholarship opportunity may have on any other financial aid they may be applying for or receiving. Additional guidance for completing the FAFSA form will be provided to awardees by the CUNY SLU Financial Aid office.

### **Award Notification and Application**

Awardees will be notified no later than April 1, 2020. All awards are for the 2020-2021 academic year and the first term award will be applied to each recipient's incumbent balance in September 2020.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

#### **Undergraduate Applicants**

Those applying for the undergraduate scholarship must have either 1) completed 60 college credits at an accredited institution and be interested in transferring into the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies B.A. program in Urban and Community Studies with a concentration in Labor or 2) currently enrolled in the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies B.A. program in Urban and Community Studies with a concentration in Labor and have accumulated a minimum of 60 credits at the time the application is submitted. In either case, the student will be expected to use the scholarship award to help them complete the program. **You must be accepted into or currently enrolled in the BA in Urban and Community Studies degree program in order to be eligible for this award.**

Applicants should meet the following criteria:

- Must have completed a minimum of 60 college credits
- First-time applicants must have a minimum 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) from prior undergraduate work
- Currently enrolled students must have a minimum 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Demonstrated potential for leadership in social justice movements and/or the capacity for academic scholarship in the field of Labor Studies
- Have two letters of recommendation from either academics and/or practitioners in areas of social justice, labor, or labor education
- Submit a compelling statement of purpose as defined under the Terms and Conditions of the Scholarship Application Requirements and Submission Process
- Demonstrate a strong writing proficiency through a required 500-word writing sample, to be sent as an attachment with your application to [scholarships@slu.cuny.edu](mailto:scholarships@slu.cuny.edu)
- First-time applicants must complete the online [undergraduate application for admission](#) to the BA in Urban and Community Studies by February 25, 2020.

## **Graduate Applicants**

Those applying for the graduate scholarship must be entering students in the Murphy Institute's M.A. in Labor Studies degree program. **You must be accepted into the MA in Labor Studies degree program in order to be eligible for this award.**

Applicants should meet the following criteria:

- Must have a minimum 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) from prior undergraduate work
- Demonstrated potential for leadership in social justice movements and/or capacity for academic scholarship in the field of Labor Studies
- Have two letters of recommendations from either academics and/or practitioners in areas of social justice, labor, or labor education
- Submit a compelling statement of purpose as defined under the Terms and Conditions of the Scholarship Application Requirements and Submission Process
- Demonstrate a strong writing proficiency through a required 1,000-word writing sample, to be sent as an attachment with your scholarship application to [scholarships@slu.cuny.edu](mailto:scholarships@slu.cuny.edu)
- Complete the online [graduate application for admission](#) to the MA in Labor Studies by February 25, 2020.

## **Scholarship Application Requirements & Submission Process**

All applicants must also complete and submit the scholarship application found below. In addition to a completed application, all scholarship applicants are required to submit:

- A single-spaced, 500 - 1,000-word personal statement, describing:
  - Your interest and/or experience in labor or other social justice movements and/or the field of Labor Studies, including any college, community or union activities
  - Any honors or awards you have received
  - Your career objective
  - Why you are a good candidate for the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor
- A writing sample (1,000 or more words for graduate applicants, 500 or more words for undergraduate applicants). The writing sample may be something entirely new or it may include something that you have written previously for another purpose (work, union, school) or, for example, a personal story that will tell us more about why you are interested in continuing your education. Ultimately, please share with us a writing sample that you believe will reflect your best writing.
- Two letters of recommendation from academics and/or practitioners in social justice movements, unions, or labor education in which they discuss 1) why they believe you are an excellent candidate for the Diversity Scholarship; 2) what social justice or labor activities you have undertaken; and 3) your potential for leadership in these areas or in the academic field of Labor Studies
- If requested, applicants must be available for a Skype or in-person interview.

**APPLICATION**  
**2020 - 2021 Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor**

**Deadline: Tuesday, March 17, 2020**

*Submissions accepted by email only to: [scholarships@slu.cuny.edu](mailto:scholarships@slu.cuny.edu)*

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Date of Birth:		Gender Identity:
Home Address:		
Primary Phone Number:		Secondary Phone Number:
Primary Email:		
CUNY Email (if applicable):		CUNY EMPLID (if applicable):
I am (check one):		
applying as a newly admitted Graduate student		
applying as a newly admitted Undergraduate student		
applying as a currently enrolled Undergraduate student		
I am (check one):		
Employed full-time		
Employed part-time		
Other		
I am (select all that apply):		
Native American	Black or African American	
Asian	White	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Latino/a	
Other (please specify):		

## COLLEGES / UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED

Name of School:		
Major Area of Study:		
GPA:	Total Credits:	Year(s) Attended:

Name of School:		
Major Area of Study:		
GPA:	Total Credits:	Year(s) Attended:

Name of School:		
Major Area of Study:		
GPA:	Total Credits:	Year(s) Attended:

Name of School:		
Major Area of Study:		
GPA:	Total Credits:	Year(s) Attended:

Name of School:		
Major Area of Study:		
GPA:	Total Credits:	Year(s) Attended:

**Personal Statement:** In the space below, please copy/paste a single-spaced, 500 - 1,000-word personal statement, in which you discuss your interest and/or experience in labor or other social justice movements and/or the field of Labor Studies, including any college, community or union activities; any honors or awards you have received; your career objective; and why you are a good candidate for the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor at the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies.

**Writing Sample:** As part of your application you must attach a writing sample – 1,000 or more words for graduate applicants, 500 or more words for undergraduate applicants. Your writing sample may include something that you have written previously for another purpose (work, union, school) or it may be, for example a personal story that will tell us more about why you are interested in continuing your education. Ultimately, please share with us a writing sample that you believe will reflect your best writing.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**  
submitted directly to [scholarships@slu.cuny.edu](mailto:scholarships@slu.cuny.edu) on your behalf:

Name:	Relationship:
Phone:	Email:

Name:	Relationship:
Phone:	Email:

**Complete the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor Application no later than  
March 17, 2020 at 11:59 PM**

- Applicants should review the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor [FAQ](#) for additional information about eligibility and program requirements, completing the application, deadline and submission requirements, and contact information for assistance in completing the M.A. in Labor Studies and B.A. in Urban and Community Studies application and admission processes.
- Scholarship application, letters of recommendation, personal statement, and required writing sample must be received by email no later than 11:59 pm on March 17, 2020 at: [scholarships@slu.cuny.edu](mailto:scholarships@slu.cuny.edu).
- Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted or reviewed.
- To be eligible for the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor, you must not be currently financially encumbered by CUNY or any other institution of higher learning.
- For further information about this scholarship program and/or for assistance in the application process, please contact the Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor Coordinator at [scholarships@slu.cuny.edu](mailto:scholarships@slu.cuny.edu) or call the SLU Scholarships Office at 212-642-2083.

By submitting this application, you give the scholarship committee permission to review and make decisions based on your academic transcripts, scholarship application, personal statement, writing sample and letters of recommendation. By submitting this application, you agree with the statement: I hereby certify that the answers and statements contained in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Awardees will be asked to provide a photo(s) and profile for inclusion in CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies promotional materials. All awardees must complete their Federal Application for Free Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to enrollment.