

Papitto Opportunity Connection

Transform Rhode Island Scholarship

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Rhode Island
Scholarship

What would you do if you were given \$1,000,000 to make Rhode Island's BIPOC communities better and stronger?

Your answer could get you a \$25,000, \$15,000, or a \$10,000 college scholarship.



Let's face it, college costs are challenging. Housing and healthcare costs can be additional barriers to getting a higher education. That's why the Papitto Opportunity Connection (POC) Transform Rhode Island Scholarship will award three students of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), the opportunity to win a \$25,000, \$15,000, or \$10,000 scholarship, as well as the opportunity to help improve the lives of BIPOC communities throughout the state. That is amazing, right?

Applicants must answer the following question:

"If you were given \$1,000,000 to better the lives of Rhode Island's BIPOC communities either through education, job skills training, business, housing, or healthcare, how would you do it?"

Not only does the Papitto Opportunity Connection Transform Rhode Island Scholarship offer students the opportunity to win scholarship money, but it also means POC will commit to investing a minimum of \$1,000,000 to transform the winning's student idea into reality. You get money for college and a seat at the table to have your idea heard and funded.

What is your one million dollar idea?

We're looking for unique and inventive ideas from BIPOC students on how to transform the Ocean State in the areas of education, job skills training, business, healthcare and housing for communities of color.

BIPOC students can submit either an essay of no more than 1,000 words or a video no longer than 3-minutes, or a comparable multi-media presentation to answer the question. Essays or videos exceeding those limits will NOT be considered.



ONE MILLION IDEAS

ONE MILLION VOICES

ONE MILLION DOLLARS

Eligibility

All students who identify as black, indigenous, or a person of color in high school grades 9 through 12 are eligible for the Papitto Opportunity Connection Transform Rhode Island Scholarship. An applicant must be a Rhode Island resident, enrolled in a public, private, parochial school, or actively home-schooled. The awards are for one year and are not renewable.

Appropriate Use

The scholarship award funds may be used to cover expenses relating to the submitting student's education at an accredited two or four-year college, university, vocational or technical school in the U.S., and/or for other qualifying expenses such as tuition, housing, and/or healthcare expenses.

Deadlines

The scholarship application period is open from November 1, 2021, through January 31, 2022. Applications received after January 31, 2022, will not be considered. There is NO fee to apply. Winners will be notified by March 15, 2022.

Submitting

Students may fill out an application and submit a written essay through our website, <https://pocfoundation.com/transformri/>. If you submit a video, please upload it to YouTube and provide a link.



Judging

Every application submitted will be reviewed by members of the POC Advisory Board for originality, feasibility and to ensure it aligns with POC's mission. The Advisory Board will then recommend the applications of six to ten finalists to a three-person panel of judges not affiliated with the Papitto Opportunity Connection. The panelists will make the final selections and award the three one-year scholarships. The substance and creativity of an application will carry more weight with the judges than the writing style or video production skills of the applicant.

Papitto Opportunity Connection's Mission:

The Papitto Opportunity Connection (POC) is a private foundation dedicated to listening and working together with Rhode Island's BIPOC communities to empower and create individual success stories by investing in education, job skills training, and entrepreneurial ventures.

For more questions, call 401-270-1236 or email us at info@pocfoundation.com.

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[POCFoundation.com](https://pocfoundation.com)