



# Papitto Opportunity Connection

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*January 2022*

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As we begin the new year, we want to provide an update on one of our most exciting programs: the [Transform Rhode Island Scholarship](#).

Back in November, we launched the Transform Rhode Island Scholarship, a game changer that empowers high school students of color in Rhode Island to have a seat at the table and be part of creating real meaningful change in their own communities.

Since then, we've been busy getting the word out to as many people as possible about this incredible opportunity for young people. You may have seen Transform Rhode Island featured on the news, displayed on the back of RIPTA buses, highlighted on social media platforms, posted on bulletins boards throughout Rhode Island, or featured in Spanish language newsprint or heard about it on Spanish language radio.

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# Papitto Opportunity Connection

## Transform 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.

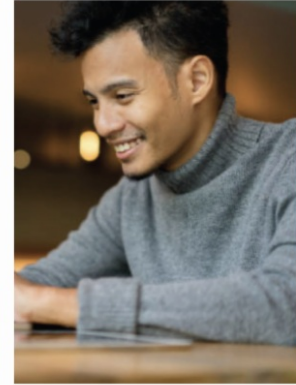
### Deadlines

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](mailto:info@pocfoundation.com).



## Now, we need your help.

We want everyone to know about this amazing opportunity. We are asking you to help us spread the word so that every high school student of color in Rhode Island has a chance to submit an idea and have a chance to be part of big change in the smallest state.





## Big Change In The Smallest State

Please share the Transform Rhode Island Scholarship info on social media (tag [@POCfoundationRI](#)) and remind everyone it is important to be creative and to step out of the box. Make sure you let everyone know we are looking for unique and innovative ideas from Rhode Island high school students of color on how to transform the Ocean State in any one of these areas:

- Education
- Job Skills Training
- Business
- Healthcare
- Housing

Be creative! Make a video or write a short essay. The big idea and its impact are what matters and not how it's written.

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Que hicieras si te dieran \$1,000,000 para mejorar las vidas en nuestra comunidad Latina de Rhode Island?

Estudiante latino de secundaria, ¿te haz preguntado alguna vez qué podrías hacer para marcar la diferencia en tu comunidad y crear un cambio positivo?



La beca Transform RI puede ayudar para hacer la diferencia y podras ganar dinero para tus estudios en la universidad.

El alumno con la respuesta ganadora recibirá una beca de \$25,000 y el apoyo para hacer realidad esa idea.

Solo responde esta pregunta:

Si te dieran \$1,000,000 para mejorar las vidas en nuestra comunidad Latina de Rhode Island ya sea a través de educación, capacitación laboral, negocios, vivienda o atención médica, ¿cómo lo harías TU?

ONE MILLION IDEAS

ONE MILLION VOICES

ONE MILLION DOLLARS

### Transform Rhode Island Scholarship

Envía tu idea hoy y hasta el 31 de enero. Visite: [POCFoundation.com/TransformRI](http://POCFoundation.com/TransformRI) para obtener información y aplicar por la beca.

### Papitto Opportunity Connection

[POCFoundation.com](http://POCFoundation.com)





IF YOU HAD \$1 MILLION HOW WOULD YOU

# TRANSFORM

RHODE ISLAND'S BIPOC COMMUNITY?

ONE MILLION IDEAS  
ONE MILLION VOICES  
ONE MILLION DOLLARS

## APPLY TODAY

Tell us your vision, and you can win a scholarship, and funding to bring your idea to life.

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Tell your friends, family and neighbors because real change can only come about when we all work together to make it happen. Make sure you let everyone know since time is ticking. The deadline to enter is right around the corner: January 31, 2022.

Change is inevitable and right now it is needed more than ever for black, indigenous, and other people of color.

**Transform  
Rhode Island  
Scholarship**

