

# 2023 Champions of Character Scholarship

Deadline: May 31, 2023

USTA Northern California's Diversity and Inclusion Committee offers four annual scholarships to support the Level One strategic priority of diversity with a multicultural focus. The four annual scholarships support and encourage multicultural participation among high school students entering college:

**Althea Gibson College Scholarship:** In December 2007, USTA Northern California enacted the Althea Gibson Scholarship in honor of the valuable contributions Althea Gibson made, as well as honoring the memory, life, and achievements of this exceptional pioneer who paved the way for millions who followed.

**Arthur Ashe College Scholarship:** On January 19, 1994, the section enacted in perpetuity the USTA Northern California Diversity Committee Service in memory of the valuable contributions Arthur Ashe made to tennis and the world at large.

**Michael Chang College Scholarship:** On July 10, 2003, USTA Northern California enacted the Michael Chang Scholarship in honor of the valuable contributions Michael Chang has made to tennis for his play and his sportsmanship.

**Pancho Gonzalez College Scholarship:** In August 2005, USTA Northern California inaugurated the Pancho Gonzalez Scholarship in honor of the valuable contributions Pancho Gonzalez made to tennis for his play and his sportsmanship. As the only Latino player of his time, Pancho Gonzalez experienced great adversity and obstacles in his life. It could be argued that this helped his tennis career.

This scholarship opportunity was designed for multicultural players. Only the Arthur Ashe scholarship is open to all applicants. All other categories must be awarded according to representation.

The college scholarships of \$2,000 per year for four years (up to \$8,000 in total) are the maximum given.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Charrisha Watkins (Diversity and Inclusion Manager) at [cwatkins@norcal.usta.com](mailto:cwatkins@norcal.usta.com).

**1. How is the money distributed/paid out?**

It's a four year scholarship (consecutive). Once awarded, the recipient needs to provide proof of full time class registration to the USTA NorCal Diversity & Inclusion Department. Payments will be made directly to the financial aid office on behalf of the student - NOT to the student.

**2. How do I get the money each year?**

Each semester, the recipient must provide a transcript copy and proof of full time class registration to the USTA NorCal Diversity Department. The recipient MUST MAINTAIN A 2.5 GPA. Payment will be made directly to the financial aid office on behalf of the student. Applicant forfeits scholarship if GPA falls under 2.5.

**3. Apart from GPA requirements, are there any other requirements in order to maintain the scholarship?**

Scholarship recipients are obligated to perform 10 hours of tennis volunteer work during the academic year.

**4. What is the application deadline?**

May 31, 2023

**5. What is the selection process?**

Applications are reviewed by the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Candidates may be asked to attend a meeting for a one-on-one interview.

**6. Where can I get more information?**

Contact Charrisha Watkins at (301) 335-9870 or email at [cwatkins@norcal.usta.com](mailto:cwatkins@norcal.usta.com).

**7. Do you have to be a representative from that community to qualify for the scholarship?**

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