



**Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

**The Eleanor Foreman Butts Scholarship  
for Future Change-Makers in  
Human Services Application**

*Return transcripts to:*  
Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
P.O. Box 61006  
Virginia Beach, VA 23466  
Return application and  
recommendations by email:  
[scholarships@vabeachdst.org](mailto:scholarships@vabeachdst.org)  
**DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

In 2026, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter will issue a

***\$1,000 Scholarship Award  
for Excellence in Education, Commitment, and Community Service***

Eleanor Foreman Butts began her career in August 1969 as a Social Worker with the Norfolk Department of Social Services. She later spent 19 years as a Senior Social Worker, guiding families through the adoption process and making decisions that shaped the lives of vulnerable children and prospective parents. In 1992, she became Supervisor of the Foster Care and Adoption Team, where she helped train new professionals, supported families facing unique challenges, and contributed to agency leadership through budget planning and service funding decisions. Mrs. Butts earned a Master of Social Work degree in 2008 through an agency-supported program. After retiring from Norfolk in 2008 with 39 years of service, Mrs. Butts continued her commitment to child welfare by joining the Suffolk Department of Social Services as Senior Supervisor for Foster Care and Adoptions. She proudly served there until her final retirement in July 2017.

All applicants **MUST meet the following criteria** to be considered for this scholarship:

- Be an African-American
- Be a resident of the City of Virginia Beach
- Be classified as a graduating senior in the class of 2026
- Have a 3.0 or better GPA (Grade Point Average)
- Must be listed as a full-time student pursuing a bachelor's degree and enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours at a four-year college or university
- Submit one (1) letter of recommendation from a professional (teacher or community leader) – must be on official letterhead
- Must submit an official transcript of grades in a sealed envelope by mail or email directly from Parchment.com
- Submit a 500 – 600 word essay on the topic provided
- The completed application packet, (including the application, recommendations, and transcripts) must be received and/or postmarked no later than **February 28, 2026**, incomplete applications or applications received after this date will not be considered.

**GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION**

***Selections will be based on the following:***

- Completed Application
- Essay (500 to 600 words)
- Grade Point Average
- Letter of Recommendation
- Extra-Curricular Activities

**Scholarship Deadline:** Completed applications (including the application, recommendations, and transcripts) must be received and/or **postmarked no later than February 28, 2026**.

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### Please Print

Full Legal Name	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Middle Name</b>
Permanent Address	<b>Number/Street</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b> <b>Zip Code</b>
<b>Email address:</b>			
<b>Home Phone Number:</b>		<b>Cell Phone Number:</b>	<b>Date of Birth (MM/DD/19YY):</b> ____ / ____ / ____
<b>Name/Address of High School</b>			
<b>Name of Parent(s) or Guardian</b>		<b>Mother</b>	<b>Father</b>
<b>Name/Address of the College or University you plan to attend:</b>			
<b>Desired Major/Course of Study:</b>			<b>Have you been accepted by this institution?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

### Extracurricular Activities

Include school (**S**), community (**C**), and church (**CH**) activities and honors. Please indicate the school year(s) in which you participated in each activity.

Type S / C / CH	MM/YY to MM/YY	Description of Activity/Leadership Responsibilities/Honors and Awards

#### Verifications:

Signature of School Official (Principal/Counselor/Teacher) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Community OR Church Official \_\_\_\_\_



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**Work Experience**

Include present and previous employment.

MM/YY to MM/YY		Employer and Description of Activity

**Essay Statement**

Please select one of the topics stated below, and attach a 500 to 600-word essay, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font, with 1” margins. Please provide a plausible approach to address the issue. Use specific details and examples in your response.

1. How can the U.S. human services system better support people before they reach a crisis point?
2. In a nation facing so many social challenges, what gives you hope about the future of human services?

Essays are used by the scholarship committee as a part of the selection process. **Be sure to put your name and the word count on the Essay.**

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**Certification – To Be Signed by All Applicants**

I have read and understand the enclosed information. I affirm that the information that I have provided on this application form and any material that I submit related to this scholarship process is complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge. According to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (FERPA), I hereby authorize Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., to release the scholarship application information provided by me to scholarship committee members to determine eligibility for this award.

Applicant's Signature

Date

**Include as attachments:**

- 1 Letter of Recommendation
- 500 – 600 word essay in Microsoft WORD format 12-point font
- A completed application (PDF fillable format) and scanned signature page (page 3) for certification.
- Official transcript of grades

Please email to [scholarships@vabeachdst.org](mailto:scholarships@vabeachdst.org) or mail by February 28, 2026 to:

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For all questions or inquiries, please contact Sonya Bennett by phone at (904) 562-0308 or email at [scholarships@vabeachdst.org](mailto:scholarships@vabeachdst.org)

For DST use only: GPA \_\_\_\_\_