Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

SADYE RINGER-SHAW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 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
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2026

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

$1,500 Scholarship Award

(Include $1,000 for tuition and a $500.00 Book Stipend)
for Excellence in Education, Commitment, and Community Service

Sadye Ringer Shaw was a community leader, she played a key role in getting improvements to her Virginia Beach neighborhood, Newsome Farm. She invited then City Manager Thomas Muehlenbeck to Newsome Farm to see firsthand the lack of basic services in the predominately black community. That meeting started a process that through the years culminated in new streets, lights, better drainage, and improved city services overall. Until her death, Sadye Ringer Shaw served as the secretary to the advisory committee on target neighborhoods. She was very enthusiastic about uplifting her community and her people; however, she came to the public attention for her work with the Civic League, but her first love was education.

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 2.8 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 (not less than 500 words, not more than 600 words)
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Letter of Recommendation
- Grade Point Average

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

Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

SADYE RINGER-SHAW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 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
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Please Print

Full Legal Name	**Last Name**	**First Name**	**Middle Name**	
Permanent Address	**Number/Street**	**City**	**State**	**Zip Code**
Email address:				
Home Phone Number:		**Cell Phone Number:**		**Date of Birth (MM/DD/19YY):** ____/____/____
Name/Address of High School				
Name of Parent(s) or Guardian	**Mother**		**Father**	
Name/Address of the College or University you plan to attend:				
Desired Major/Course of Study:			**Have you been accepted by this institution?** ☐ Yes ☐ 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 _____

Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

SADYE RINGER-SHAW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 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
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Work Experience

Include present and previous employment.

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

Essay Statement

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.

Sadye Ringer-Shaw taught for more than 40 years, introducing her students to innovative educational ideas while exposing them to problem-solving methods. Some states prohibit certain books in their school libraries and ban African American History/Studies from their curriculum, calling it Critical Race Theory (CRT). What are your thoughts and how can we prevent the banning of books and African American History/Studies in Virginia schools? What are your recommendations to tackle this issue?

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.**

Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

SADYE RINGER-SHAW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 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
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2026

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 or mail by February 28, 2026 to:

Virginia Beach Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
P.O. Box 61006
Virginia Beach, VA 23466

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

For DST use only: GPA_____