



**COMTO**  
Conference of Minority Transportation Officials

## **Northern California Chapter COMTO Scholarships are now available**

*Application packets are available at [www.comtonorcal.org](http://www.comtonorcal.org)*

*Applicants must either be Bay Area/ Sacramento Area residents OR attend school in those areas*

The Northern California Chapter of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) is seeking applicants for scholarship awards of \$1,000 – \$5,000 each. COMTO is a national, multi-ethnic organization founded in 1971 to advocate for the transportation careers and transportation needs of minorities. COMTO's vision is to be the primary voice in the transportation industry for people, businesses, and communities of color, with a focus on equal access, advancement, and sustainable results. COMTO also supports opportunities for youth to learn more about careers in transportation through scholarship programs, internships, and mentoring opportunities.

Applications must be postmarked no later than **Friday, November 14, 2008**. (Applications that are postmarked by November 14<sup>th</sup> but not delivered by November 21<sup>st</sup> will not be considered.)

### **ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

#### **APPLICANTS MUST BE:**

1. **U. S. citizens currently enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program at an accredited college or university.** Graduate students and students already in possession of an undergraduate degree are not eligible.
2. **Members of a racial minority group** (African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, or Native American).
3. **Applicants must either be San Francisco Bay Area or Sacramento Area residents OR must attend college in those areas.** (Counties included in the COMTO of Northern California region are: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma, Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Sutter and Yolo Counties).
4. **Sophomore level students or above, in professional majors.** Applicants must have academic majors, such as business, economics, English, history, engineering, psychology, sociology, etc. – certificate programs and skilled trades are excluded.
5. **Applicants must have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.4** or above.
6. **Applicants will be required to verify information** upon request.
7. **Winners will be required to attend a COMTO event in order to receive the scholarship;** Scholarship funds will be mailed to the winners after the event.
8. **Students may receive scholarships a maximum of two times** from this COMTO chapter.
9. **Students awarded scholarships must register as COMTO student members** (\$25, deducted from the award). Benefits include opportunities to participate in COMTO meetings, mentoring, internships, and COMTO National scholarships.



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## **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION – FALL 2008 COMTO – Northern California Chapter**

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**APPLICATION PROCEDURE** – Applicants must submit all of the following:

- Completed application form.** (Item A below)
- Essay on Career Interests** (Item B)
- Short essay on Transportation Interest:** (Either Item C-1 OR C-2)
- College Transcript** – most recent college transcript showing cumulative GPA. (Item D)
- Resume** (Item E)
- FAFSA** – Provide a copy of your most recent Federal Student Aid Report. (Item F). A sample student aid report can be found at:  
  
[http://www.collegeanswer.com/paying/content/pay\\_aid\\_fafsa.jsp](http://www.collegeanswer.com/paying/content/pay_aid_fafsa.jsp)
- G. Reference** – A reference from a professor, counselor, or advisor. Additional score points will be given if your reference prepares a letter on letterhead paper from the organization with which he/she is affiliated. (See Item G, Reference information)

**A. STUDENT APPLICATION**

(Please print or type)

1. Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last
First
Middle
2. Name of Current College/University: \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Campus Location: \_\_\_\_\_
4. College/University Major: \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Number of Completed Credit Hours: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Academic Status as of October 1, 2008:  Sophomore  Junior  Senior  
*(Note – Applicants must be sophomore - senior level to be eligible.)*
7. Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Current Grade Point Average (G.P.A.): \_\_\_\_\_
9. List of Institutions of Higher Education Attended with Current or Last Attended Institution First:

Name and Location of Institution	Dates of Attendance	Degree Earned	Date Awarded	Major

10. College/University Residence Address:

Street	City	State	Zip Code
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11. College/University Residence Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Permanent Residence Address:

Street	City	State	Zip Code
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14. Permanent Residence Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ 15. E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Are you a U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No

17. Race/Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_ (Note: Applicants must be members of a racial minority group, i.e., African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American.)

18. Are you a resident of Northern California Areas (San Francisco Bay Area or Sacramento Area) or do you currently attend school in Northern California?  Yes, permanent resident of Northern California  Yes, enrolled full-time at a college in Northern California  No

19. Are you currently a student member of COMTO?  Yes  No  
If not, are you interested in joining?  Yes  No

20. Have you received a COMTO scholarship previously  Yes  No  
If yes, specify year received COMTO chapter (or national) awarding scholarship \_\_\_\_\_

21. Signature – *I attest that all responses are accurate* \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. CAREER INTEREST ESSAY:** Describe in detail on one page your mid-term and long-range professional goals. Explain plans to further your education and assist in making future contributions in your field of study. Explain any special circumstances in your life that you have had to overcome in order to succeed academically. Explain how additional resources could enhance your success.

**C. TRANSPORTATION EXPERIENCE/INTEREST** – Respond to EITHER C-1 OR C-2

**C-1** What has been your experience using public transportation? If you were a transportation professional what suggestions would you make to improve transportation? (Respond in ½ page – 1 page)

**OR**

**C-2** Do you have a career interest that could be utilized in the field of transportation? If so, explain and discuss how you would improve public transportation. (i.e., Business administration, planning, law, operations management, marketing, etc.) (Respond in ½ - 1 page)

**D. Grade Transcripts** – Please send your most recent grade transcripts. Include as much of your college grade history as possible.

**E. Resume.** Provide a 1-page resume that includes information on your work experience, volunteer activities, education, honors/awards received, and other interests.

**F. Federal Student Aid Report** – Submit a copy of your student aid report (FAFSA summary).

**G. Reference** – One reference from a professor, counselor, or advisor

**DEADLINE: MATERIALS MUST BE MAILED WITH POSTMARKS NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 14, 2008.**

Please submit the application, two essays, resume, academic transcripts, resume, FAFSA, and the recommendation.

**MAIL TO:**

**COMTO of Northern California – Scholarship Program  
Attention: Mr. Raymond Odunlami  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
101 – Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA 94612**

Applicants: Thank you for your interest in the COMTO scholarship program. We encourage youth to join COMTO of Northern California. Student memberships are available (\$25 per year) and provide a place for youth to interact with minority professionals who may be able to assist their career development. Applications for student memberships are available at [www.comtonorcal.org](http://www.comtonorcal.org). If you have questions email Raymond Odunlami, at [Rodunlami@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:Rodunlami@mtc.ca.gov) or by telephone at (510) 817-5799



## G. SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION – REFERENCE

**NOTE: Recommendations provided on college/agency letterhead receive additional points; please include recommendation letter with this reference form.**

Please ask your major professor, advisor, counselor, or other faculty member to complete this section:

1. Name of applicant (student):

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I have the following relationship with student: *(check as many as apply)*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor/Professor  | <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (His/her) Dept. Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> other (Specify) _____ |

3. I am acquainted with his / her work during the period

from: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_  
month/year month/year

4. His / Her major is:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. I have had an opportunity to observe the quality of his/her work as (check one below):

- outstanding     very good     good     fair

Please add any other comments that you consider to be pertinent to the evaluation of the applicant as a potential COMTO scholarship recipient. *(You are encouraged to attach an additional page on school letterhead.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of professor or advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution/Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of professor or advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** Please return this information to the applicant (whether sealed or not) so that it may be submitted along with other application materials. *If confidentiality is desired, return to student in sealed envelope – or, send directly to COMTO of Northern California as follows: Northern California COMTO, c/o Mr. Raymond Odunlami, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, 101 – Eighth Street, Oakland, CA 94612*